



RESOLUTION

URGING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO USE DROUGHT-RESISTANT NATIVE HAWAIIAN PLANTS FOR TRAFFIC SPACES AND OTHER LANDSCAPED AREAS WHENEVER FEASIBLE AND COST EFFECTIVE.

WHEREAS, the population of the City and County of Honolulu ("City") has grown significantly in recent decades; and

WHEREAS, according to The State of Hawaii Data Book 2018, the City's resident population was 980,080 in 2018, compared to 876,156 in 2000; and

WHEREAS, visitor arrivals have also increased, and 5,862,358 domestic and international travelers visited the City in 2018; and

WHEREAS, the growing resident and visitor populations have led to an increased demand upon the City's water supply; and

WHEREAS, global climate change, which causes rising temperatures, decreased annual rainfall, and an increase in the frequency and intensity of droughts, is also putting a growing strain on the City's water supply; and

WHEREAS, the City has long recognized that effective management of the island's water supply is critical for the well-being and safety of its residents and visitors and that water conservation should be actively practiced whenever possible; and

WHEREAS, the City has established several policies relating to water conservation, including the following:

1. Resolution 07-358, CD1 and Resolution 09-50, CD1, FD1, which established City policies to reduce potable water consumption at City facilities and increase the use of recycled water;
2. Chapter 30, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 1990 ("ROH") ("Water Management"), which recognized that "water is a limited resource, the development and use of which must be carefully planned" and established water conservation as a water management policy that "shall be strongly encouraged" (ROH Sections 30-1.1(a) and 30-2.2(c)(6));



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3. The City's General Plan (Part V, Transportation and Utilities), which established the following objective: "To meet the needs of the people of Oahu for an adequate supply of water and for environmentally sound systems of waste disposal" (Objective B); and
4. The City's Development Plans and Sustainable Communities Plans (ROH Chapter 24), which contain policies relating to implementing water conservation practices in the design of new developments and the modification of existing uses, including landscaped areas, and using xeriscaping (the use of landscape materials with low water demand); and

WHEREAS, in 2016, the Departments of Facility Maintenance and Transportation Services launched a \$1 million pilot project to install synthetic turf at nine selected City medians, roundabouts, and other traffic spaces; and

WHEREAS, the City Administration reported in December 2019 that while some sites had problems, such as becoming surrounded by weeds due to improper installation, the artificial turf worked well in many areas, and could save the City money by reducing the amounts of water, time, and labor needed for maintenance purposes, as well as mitigating noise impacts on residential areas such as from mowing, edging, leaf blowing, and weed whacking; and

WHEREAS, according to the University of Hawaii's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, native Hawaiian plants are those which came to the Hawaiian Islands by natural means such as jet stream air currents, on or in birds, or by floating to the islands on ocean currents; and

WHEREAS, over the centuries, plants originally reaching Hawaii by natural means have evolved into additional species and varieties, many of which are adapted to Hawaii's climate, terrain, and soils; and

WHEREAS, many native Hawaiian plants, especially those found in coastal and dry forest areas, are beautiful and unique, consume little water, require minimal maintenance, and can be successfully and inexpensively grown and mass propagated; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that using drought-resistant native Hawaiian plants in traffic spaces, such as in medians and roundabouts, and in other landscaped areas, could help the City meet its water conservation goals and save the City money; now, therefore,



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BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that it urges the City Administration to use drought-resistant native Hawaiian plants in new traffic spaces and other landscaped areas, and to gradually phase in those plants in public areas with existing landscaping, if the use of drought-resistant native Hawaiian plants is feasible and can be done in a cost effective way; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, the Chief Engineer of the Department of Facility Maintenance, and the Director of Transportation Services.

INTRODUCED BY:

Kymerly Pine

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

March 11, 2020
Honolulu, Hawaii

_____ Councilmembers

CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII
CERTIFICATE

RESOLUTION 20-74, CD1

Introduced: 03/11/20 By: KYMBERLY PINE

Committee: BUSINESS, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AND
TOURISM

Title: RESOLUTION URGING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO USE DROUGHT-RESISTANT NATIVE HAWAIIAN PLANTS FOR TRAFFIC SPACES AND OTHER LANDSCAPED AREAS WHENEVER FEASIBLE AND COST EFFECTIVE.

Voting Legend: * = Aye w/Reservations

NOTE: EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 23, 2020, COUNCILMEMBER IKAIKA ANDERSON, REPRESENTING COUNCIL DISTRICT III, RESIGNED FROM OFFICE. [Refer to Communication CC-256(20)]

NOTE: THE APPOINTMENT OF ALAN KEKOA TEXEIRA TO FILL A VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER FOR COUNCIL DISTRICT III WAS APPROVED ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2020. (refer to RES20-236, FD1)

CC-269(20) KOBAYASHI - COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS.

CC-334

CC-334 FUKUNAGA - RE-REFERRAL FROM COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC, INFRASTRUCTURE, TECHNOLOGY AND SUSTAINABILITY TO COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM.

11/17/20

BUSINESS, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AND
TOURISM

CR-281 - RESOLUTION REPORTED OUT OF COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION AS AMENDED IN CD1 FORM.

4 AYES: FUKUNAGA, PINE, TSUNEYOSHI, WATERS.


12/09/20

COUNCIL

CR-281 AND RESOLUTION 20-74, CD1 AS AMENDED WERE ADOPTED.

9 AYES: ELEFANTE, FUKUNAGA, KOBAYASHI, MANAHAN, MENOR, PINE, TEXEIRA, TSUNEYOSHI, WATERS.

I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this RESOLUTION.


GLEN I. TAKAHASHI, CITY CLERK


ANN KOBAYASHI, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER