

MAR 12 2021

SENATE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO PLAN FOR THE
NECESSARY IMPROVEMENTS TO, AND REVITALIZATION OF, HANS
L'ORANGE PARK.

1 WHEREAS, over time, Waipahu has evolved as a result of the
2 area's economic mainstay, the Oahu Sugar Company; and
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4 WHEREAS, the Oahu Sugar Company was established in 1897 and
5 was a major contributor to Waipahu's growth and prosperity; and
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7 WHEREAS, Waipahu is a classic example of a diverse sugar
8 plantation town; and
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10 WHEREAS, as a primary source of employment, the plantation
11 attracted a mix of immigrant workers who formed a community of
12 various cultures, traditions, and lifestyles; and
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14 WHEREAS, Hans L'Orange was an Oahu Sugar Company manager
15 who, in 1924, persuaded his superiors to authorize the use of
16 several acres of low-yielding sugar cane land upon which to
17 build a recreation area for workers; and
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19 WHEREAS, L'Orange believed that wholesome recreational and
20 social activities were the keys to happiness and health for the
21 plantation workers; and
22

23 WHEREAS, in 1972, this recreation area was renamed Hans
24 L'Orange Park; and
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26 WHEREAS, as part of the Waipahu 2000 Plan, a "passive park"
27 area that would retain most of the mature trees was incorporated
28 into Hans L'Orange Park allowing for the expansion of the
29 baseball field at the Hans L'Orange Park for professional-level
30 use; and



1 WHEREAS, consequently, Hans L'Orange Park has hosted home
2 games for the Waipahu High School Marauders and Hawaii Pacific
3 University Sharks baseball teams; and

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5 WHEREAS, in the mid-1990's to early 2000's, the Hans
6 L'Orange Park was the ballpark of choice for the Hawaii Winter
7 Baseball Leagues and other local and regional baseball teams and
8 leagues; and

9
10 WHEREAS, Hans L'Orange Park includes a commemorative
11 monument saluting nineteen Waipahu sports legends, including
12 Hans L'Orange; brothers Fred, Johnny, Eddie and Chester Yasui;
13 Andy Ganigan; Al Silva; Henry "Prince" Oana; Kenneth Kimura;
14 Richard Oamilda; Chrispin Mancao; Katsuji Kojima; Brown Watabu;
15 Walter Gouveia, Sr.; Masa Yonamine; James Moniz; Takemi Arakawa;
16 Dr. Richard Noda; and Mac Flores; and

17
18 WHEREAS, Hans L'Orange Park has not been immune to the
19 ravages of time and neglect; and

20
21 WHEREAS, Hans L'Orange Park and its surrounding facilities,
22 including the bathroom facilities, play areas, parking
23 facilities, and baseball field, have deteriorated, resulting in
24 limited use and unsafe conditions; and

25
26 WHEREAS, the homeless population has encroached on the park
27 grounds, thus creating an unsafe and unsanitary situation; and

28
29 WHEREAS, Hans L'Orange Park is one of several district
30 parks serving Waipahu; and

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32 WHEREAS, due to Hans L'Orange Park's celebrated historical
33 past and the park's location in the Waipahu Heritage District,
34 it is imperative that Hans L'Orange Park be repaired and
35 restored so that the park may once again be a safe place for
36 recreation and social gathering for the Waipahu community and
37 visitors; and

38
39 WHEREAS, Hans L'Orange Park is approaching its one
40 hundred-year anniversary; and



S.R. NO. 83

1 WHEREAS, the repair, restoration, and revitalization of
 2 Hans L'Orange Park, including the "passive park" green space,
 3 bathroom facilities, play areas, parking facilities, baseball
 4 field, and other ancillary facilities, will enable the City and
 5 County of Honolulu and the Waipahu community to promote a sense
 6 of place and showcase community spirit based on the area's rich
 7 and colorful plantation heritage; now, therefore,

8
 9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
 10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021,
 11 that the City and County of Honolulu is encouraged to plan for
 12 the necessary improvements to, and revitalization of, Hans
 13 L'Orange Park, including the design of the revitalized park and
 14 the repairs necessary to restore park facilities; and

15
 16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City and County of Honolulu
 17 officials are encouraged to seek input from Waipahu residents
 18 and relevant community organizations and businesses to determine
 19 the appropriate improvements to be made to Hans L'Orange Park;
 20 and

21
 22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 23 Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City and County of
 24 Honolulu, Chair of the Honolulu City Council, Director of Parks
 25 and Recreation of the City and County of Honolulu, Director of
 26 Design and Construction for the City and County of Honolulu, and
 27 Director of Facility Maintenance of the City and County of
 28 Honolulu.

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OFFERED BY: Cherene K. Hoshikawa

