



MAKAKILO / KAPOLEI / HONOKAI HALE NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 34

NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION

925 DILLINGHAM BOULEVARD SUITE 160 • HONOLULU, HI, 96817

PHONE (808) 768-3710 • FAX (808) 768-3711 • WEBSITE: [honolulu.gov/nco](http://honolulu.gov/nco)

April 8, 2026

9:30 a.m.

Re: HR12/HCR10 – URGING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO ESTABLISH  
A PERMANENT LANDFILL HOST BENEFITS PROGRAM AND PROGRAM ADVISORY  
GROUP

Aloha Chair Greggor Ilagan, Vice Chair Ikaika Hussey, and committee members. The board supports HR12/HCR10, which urges the City and County of Honolulu to establish a permanent landfill host benefits program and a program advisory group.

In December 2023, the board adopted a related resolution, “Supporting Host Compensation Packages for Neighborhoods Impacted by Active Landfill and Waste-to-Energy Facilities,” recognizing the disproportionate impacts of waste management on Kapolei, Makakilo, Honokai Hale, Ko Olina, and Nānākuli.

On January 9, 2025, the board adopted a resolution urging the Department of Environmental Services to create host compensation packages for neighborhoods affected by active landfills and waste-to-energy facilities. A special board meeting on February 19, 2026, reaffirmed the board’s support for HR12/HCR10.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Me ke aloha,

Anthony Makana Paris  
Chair

Encl.





MAKAKILO/KAPOLEI/HONOKAI HALE NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 34

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 925 DILLINGHAM BLVD SUITE 160 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96817  
PHONE (808) 768-3710 • FAX (808) 768-3711 • INTERNET: <http://www.honolulu.gov>

**RESOLUTION**

**SUPPORTING HOST COMMUNITY COMPENSATION FOR THOSE NEIGHBORHOODS  
IMPACTED BY ACTIVE LANDFILLS AND WASTE-TO-ENERGY FACILITIES**

Whereas, The Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board No. 34 (“Board”) is a citizens’ advisory board whose purpose is to “increase and assure effective citizen participation in the decisions of government” per the City and County of Honolulu’s Neighborhood Plan of 2008; and

Whereas, Every community in Hawai‘i deserves a “clean and healthful environment” (HI State Constitution Article XI, Section 9; In re Maui Elec. Co., 2017 Haw.); and

Whereas, “[H]ost community compensation’ or ‘host fees,’ consist of cash payments or in-kind gifts that are paid to a community by the developer for the right to site a landfill within the community’s jurisdiction” (August 2002 *Host Community Compensation and Municipal Solid Waste Landfills* US EPA National Center for Environmental Economics) ; and

Whereas, In 2021, the total waste generated on O‘ahu was 1,692,840 tons, with 255,135 tons representing 25% of the total waste stream being Construction and Demolition Recycling; 222,238 tons representing 4% of the total waste being Construction and Demolition landfilling; 437,578 tons representing 28% of the total waste being General Material Recycling; 513,635 tons representing 30% of the total waste being H-Power Waste-to-Energy; 157,531 tons representing 11% of the total waste being H-Power Ash and Residual that was landfilled; and 106,723 tons representing 2% of the total waste being Municipal Solid Waste landfilling (January 24, 2023 *Status Report on Reducing and/or Continuing the Use of Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill*); and

Whereas, Nearly all landfilling, waste-to-energy processing, and recycling of O‘ahu’s waste occurs in West O‘ahu at the City-owned Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill (WGSL) in Kahe valley adjacent to the Honokai Hale and Makakilo communities, the City-owned H-POWER facility adjacent to the Kapolei community, and where both the H-POWER Ash and Residual along with much of the Construction and Demolition waste passes through Makakilo, Kapolei, and Honokai Hale to either end up at WGSL or in Nānākuli at the privately-owned Construction and Demolition landfill operated by PVT Land Company, Ltd. (2019 *Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan*); and

Whereas, In 1985, landfilling began at the current privately-owned Construction and Demolition landfill operated by PVT Land Company, Ltd.; and

Whereas, In 1989, landfilling began at Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill; and

Whereas, In 1990, pursuant to an agreement between the City and Covanta, the City began operation of the H-POWER a Waste-to-Energy facility; and



Whereas, In 2012, the H-POWER facility's service capacity was increased by almost 50 percent with the addition of a third boiler; and

Whereas, Hawai'i recognized that "no one segment of the population or geographic area should be disproportionately burdened with environmental and/or health impacts resulting from development, construction, operations and/or use of natural resources" (2008 *Hawaii Environmental Justice Initiative Report*); and

Whereas, West O'ahu, including the neighborhoods of Makakilo, Kapolei, Honokai Hale, and Nānākuli, have been "disproportionately burdened" with the management of the entire islands waste for decades; and

Whereas, Scientific and public health studies have shown that there are statistically significant negative health impacts from landfills and Waste-to-Energy facilities for those living up to two miles away from their operation depending on local geography and micro-climates; and

Whereas, People living near active landfills and Waste-to-Energy facilities have experienced a myriad of health problems including increased risk of reduced lung function, asthma, ataxia, paralysis, and lung cancer as their home air quality has been negatively impacted by such operations; and

Whereas, People living near active landfills have incurred substantial costs to address those negative effects including with the installation and maintenance of HVAC and/or air filtration systems, home repair, and medical and even funeral expenses; and

Whereas, On March 27, 2003, the City applied for and the Land Use Commission (LUC) voted to approve an additional amendment to the special use permit to expand the WGS� by an additional 21 acres, subject to certain conditions, including a condition that the WGS� be restricted from accepting any further municipal waste material and be closed on May 1, 2008; and

Whereas, In 2006, the City and County Council under the Hanneman Administration provided a \$2 million benefits package for people living near the Waimanalo Gulch landfill where half went to the city's Department of Parks and Recreation and the other half to the city's Department of Community Services as a matter of Environmental Justice in partial compensation of the community impact for WGS� operations since inception; and

Whereas, On March 14, 2008, WGS� was not closed, but the City applied for and the LUC extended the special use permit closure deadline from May 1, 2008, to November 1, 2009; and

Whereas, On October 22, 2009, the City applied for and the LUC through Docket No. SPO9-403 approved a new special use permit that allowed a WGS� site expansion and time extension, provided that only ash and residue from Honolulu's waste-to-energy facility, H-POWER, be permitted at the WGS� after July 31, 2012; and

Whereas, On October 10, 2019, the City applied for and the LUC approved an amendment to the special use permit ("2019 LUC Order"), subject to certain conditions, including a condition that the City must identify, by December 31, 2022, an alternative landfill site to be used upon closure of the WGS� and new closure date of 2028; and



Whereas, While the money offered in the Hanneman Administration Community Benefits Package was spent within the community and on projects recommended by community members, it was nonetheless, not community-led; and

Whereas, No West O‘ahu community, including the neighborhoods of Makakilo, Kapolei, Honokai Hale, and Nānākuli, have been compensated for the impact of the City-owned H-POWER facility and transfer of ash and residue through its neighborhoods to WGSL or the privately-owned Construction and Demolition landfill operated by PVT Land Company, Ltd.; and

Whereas, Mayor Peter Carlisle’s Advisory Committee on Landfill Site Selection felt “...that whatever site is ultimately chosen the City must consider ‘Host Community [Compensation] Benefits.’ The details of a benefits package should be negotiated with the affected community” (September 2012 *Report of the Mayor’s Advisory Committee on Landfill Site Selection*); and

Whereas, Mayor Blangiardi’s Landfill Advisory Committee recommended that “...a Host Community [Compensation] Benefits package be established not only for the next community to host a landfill, but also include communities that have borne the burden of past O‘ahu landfills” (June 2022 *Oahu Landfill Siting Study & Landfill Advisory Committee Recommendations*); and

Whereas, “Host payments can potentially be renegotiated at any time. In practice, even when contracts for host fees are made for multiple years, the threat of a lawsuit, bad publicity or bad community relations, could potentially lead to a re-opening of host fee negotiations” (August 2022 *Host Community Compensation and Municipal Solid Waste Landfills* US EPA National Center for Environmental Economics); and

*Resolved*, That the Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board No. 34 supports host community compensation for those neighborhoods impacted by active landfills and Waste-to-Energy facilities; and be it

*Resolved*, that any funds made available as compensation to the neighborhoods of Makakilo, Kapolei, and Honokai Hale for the impact on the community by active landfills and Waste-to-Energy be placed into a community fund that would manage and grant funds to the direct benefits of the neighborhoods of Makakilo, Kapolei, and Honokai Hale; and be it

*Ordered*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, Honolulu Council Members, and all Neighborhood Boards.

**Adopted by Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board No. 34 at its December 6, 2023 Regular Board Meeting, 6-0-0.**



**HR-12**

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 6:52:06 AM

Testimony for ECD on 4/8/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
TERI SAVAIINAEA	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Ilagan and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong support of HCR10 andHR12.

This measure reflects a needed step toward thoughtful, responsible governance that puts our communities first. Too often, decisions are made without fully considering long-term impacts on local families, resources, and infrastructure. HCR10/HR12 helps ensure greater accountability and a more balanced approach moving forward.

As a community leader on the Wai‘anae Coast, I see firsthand how important it is that policies are not just well-intended, but grounded in real-world impacts. Our communities deserve transparency, consistency, and decisions that reflect the voices of the people—not just top-down priorities.

HCR10/HR12 moves us in that direction. It reinforces the importance of careful planning and responsible stewardship, which is what our residents expect and deserve.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony. I respectfully urge your support.

Teri Kia Savaiinaea

Wai‘anae resident

**HR-12**

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 2:58:00 PM

Testimony for ECD on 4/8/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Terri Yoshinaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.



‘Apelila 8, 2026  
9:30 AM

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TECHNOLOGY  
Rep. Greggor Ilagan, Chair  
Rep. Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

Conference Room 423 & Videoconference  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

Re: HR12/HCR10 - URGING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO ESTABLISH  
A PERMANENT LANDFILL HOST BENEFITS PROGRAM AND PROGRAM ADVISORY  
GROUP.

Aloha Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey and honorable members of the committee:

The Prince Kūhiō Hawaiian Civic Club (PKHCC) strongly **supports** HR12/HCR10, urging the City and County of Honolulu to establish a permanent landfill host benefits program and program advisory group.

The club affirms that every community in Hawai‘i is entitled to a clean and healthful environment as guaranteed by Article XI, Section 9 of the Hawai‘i State Constitution. We recall the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs’ Resolution 2019-52, which urged creation of an adequate buffer zone around landfills, and note that Act 73 (Session Laws of Hawai‘i, 2020) established a statewide half-mile buffer prohibiting landfills near residential, school, or hospital property lines.

However, the buffer zone law alone does not address the ongoing challenges faced by residents who live near landfills—residents who endure diminished quality of life, reduced property values, and adverse health outcomes. Hawai‘i must ensure that no population is disproportionately burdened by environmental and health impacts from development and resource use. On O‘ahu, nearly all landfilling and waste processing is concentrated in West O‘ahu, impacting communities with high concentrations of Native Hawaiians and Homesteads.

Landfills in West O‘ahu have contributed to air pollution and groundwater contamination, and communities adjacent to these facilities experience elevated cancer rates and other serious health risks. Incineration and related waste-processing activities emit harmful pollutants and carcinogens that increase the likelihood of respiratory disease, cancer, and other long-term health problems for already vulnerable populations.

The Kekaha Host Community Benefits Fund demonstrates a workable model for compensating affected communities and incorporating community decision-making into environmental planning. Previous local advisory bodies—the Mayor’s Advisory Committee on Landfill Site Selection (2012) and the Landfill Advisory Committee (2022)—have both recommended consideration of Host Community Compensation Benefits for impacted communities.

For these reasons, the PKHCC strongly supports HR12/HCR10 and supports urging the City and County of Honolulu to adopt a permanent landfill host benefits program and establish a program advisory group that includes meaningful representation from affected communities, ensures transparent oversight, and provides equitable compensation and mitigation measures for those bearing the burdens of waste facilities.

Founded in 1964, the Prince Kūhiō Hawaiian Civic Club was established to promote the education and social welfare of people of Hawaiian ancestry. Its objectives include supporting high ethical standards in business, industry, and professional fields.

Mahalo for your consideration of our position.

Me ke aloha,

Shauna Kahiapo, Esq.  
Pelekikena

[president@pkhcc.org](mailto:president@pkhcc.org)