## DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING

## CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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March 23, 2018





Dear Chair Rhoads and Committee Members:

Subject: Senate Concurrent Resolution 50

Relating to a Request for the Legislative Reference Bureau to Conduct a Study Regarding Community Development Districts

Under the Hawaii Community Development Authority

The Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) offers comments on Senate Concurrent Resolution 50, which requests the Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB) to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of: 1) a new East Kapolei Community Development District under the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA); 2) dissolving the Kakaako Community Development District; and 3) transferring the Heeia Community Development District to another State agency.

We do not support the transfer of planning and zoning responsibilities for East Kapolei to the HCDA. However, we are confident that the proposed study will confirm and validate our reasons it would not be a prudent course of action.

We do support the return of Kakaako to the City, but agree that it should not be rushed, as there are significant implications that need to be equitably and deliberately addressed. A study by the LRB may be the precursor to a transition plan.

With respect to Heeia, it is not an area needing redevelopment guidance, as envisioned under Chapter 206E, HRS. Therefore, we have no objections to the study if it will assess the match between HCDA's mission and the vision for Heeia, which is as a mainly agricultural area, in keeping with the City's plans for the area. We respectfully ask that the study consider returning planning and zoning jurisdiction to the City.

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair and Members of the Committee on Water & Land Hawaii State Senate March 23, 2018 Senate Concurrent Resolution 50 Page 2

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Very truly yours,

Kathy Sokugawa Acting Director