
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TO STUDY PROPERTIES IN OR AROUND KAKAAKO TO RECOMMEND APPROPRIATE SITES FOR A NEW FIRE STATION OR, ALTERNATIVELY, TO IDENTIFY EXISTING FIRE STATIONS THAT MAY BE RELOCATED OR EXPANDED TO MORE EFFECTIVELY SERVE THE KAKAAKO COMMUNITY.

1 WHEREAS, in 1976, the Legislature recognized the lack of
2 timely revitalization of underutilized urban communities in the
3 State, and determined that a new concept of urban planning and
4 redevelopment was needed to supplement traditional methods of
5 community redevelopment; and

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7 WHEREAS, the Legislature created the Hawaii Community
8 Development Authority codified as chapter 206E, Hawaii Revised
9 Statutes, an agency which would "join the strengths of private
10 enterprise, public development and regulation into a new form
11 capable of long-range planning and implementation of improved
12 community development"; and

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14 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Community Development Authority
15 designated the Kakaako area as the first community development
16 district; and

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18 WHEREAS, as a result of subsequent Hawaii Community
19 Development Authority actions, the community of Kakaako has
20 undergone major revitalization efforts that have transformed the
21 area into a dense, urban community with dozens of high-rises and
22 millions of square feet of new commercial space; and

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24 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Community Development Authority
25 estimates that planned Kakaako developments will increase the
26 residential population by twenty thousand to over forty thousand
27 individuals by 2030; and



1 WHEREAS, Honolulu Fire Station 9 - Kakaako is primarily
2 responsible for providing emergency response to Kakaako; and
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4 WHEREAS, the Fire Station 9, built in 1972, was not
5 designed to accommodate the area's projected growth, and the
6 site has no space for expansion to meet the challenges posed by
7 the increased residential and transient populations, proposed
8 residential structures, and commercial development in Kakaako;
9 and
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11 WHEREAS, emergency response is time-sensitive, and
12 providing emergency services to high-rise locations presents
13 unique challenges, one of which is a longer response time due to
14 the need for emergency responders to travel from street-level to
15 the high-rise residence and back down; and
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17 WHEREAS, to compensate for longer response times, the
18 distance between locations in Kakaako and the nearest fire
19 station must be reduced; and
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21 WHEREAS, the total number of responses to Kakaako from Fire
22 Station 9 has increased by more than three hundred twenty-seven
23 percent from 2001 to 2018; and
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25 WHEREAS, given the rapidly increasing residential and
26 transient populations, numerous completed and planned
27 residential high-rises, and expanding commercial development, in
28 2018, the Honolulu Fire Department recommended that a new fire
29 station be built to provide additional first responder services
30 to Kakaako; and
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32 WHEREAS, a fire station may house and support personnel and
33 equipment for firefighting, emergency medical services, and
34 police; and
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36 WHEREAS, the State, through the Hawaii Community
37 Development Authority under chapter 206E, Hawaii Revised
38 Statutes, has planning authority over Kakaako, superseding the
39 planning authority of the City and County of Honolulu; now,
40 therefore,



1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
2 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
3 2019, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii Community
4 Development Authority is requested to study properties in and
5 around the Kakaako community development district and recommend
6 appropriate sites for a new fire station that meets
7 specifications recommended by the Honolulu Fire Department; and
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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Community
10 Development Authority is requested to recommend ways and means,
11 if necessary, to construct a fire station upon the recommended
12 sites, for use by the City and County of Honolulu; and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Community
15 Development Authority is requested to examine the feasibility of
16 relocating or expanding existing fire stations in or around
17 Kakaako in lieu of, or in addition to, constructing a new fire
18 station; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Community
21 Development Authority is requested to submit a report of its
22 findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than
23 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
24 2020; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
27 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Executive Director
28 of the Hawaii Community Development Authority and Chief of the
29 Honolulu Fire Department.

