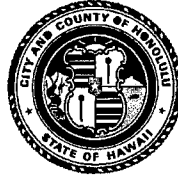


HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

636 South Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-5007
Phone: 808-723-7139 Fax: 808-723-7111 Internet: www.honolulu.gov/hfd

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



MANUEL P. NEVES
FIRE CHIEF

LIONEL CAMARA JR.
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

April 11, 2019

LATE

The Honorable Tom Brower, Chair
Committee on Housing
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 423
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

LATE

Dear Chair Brower:

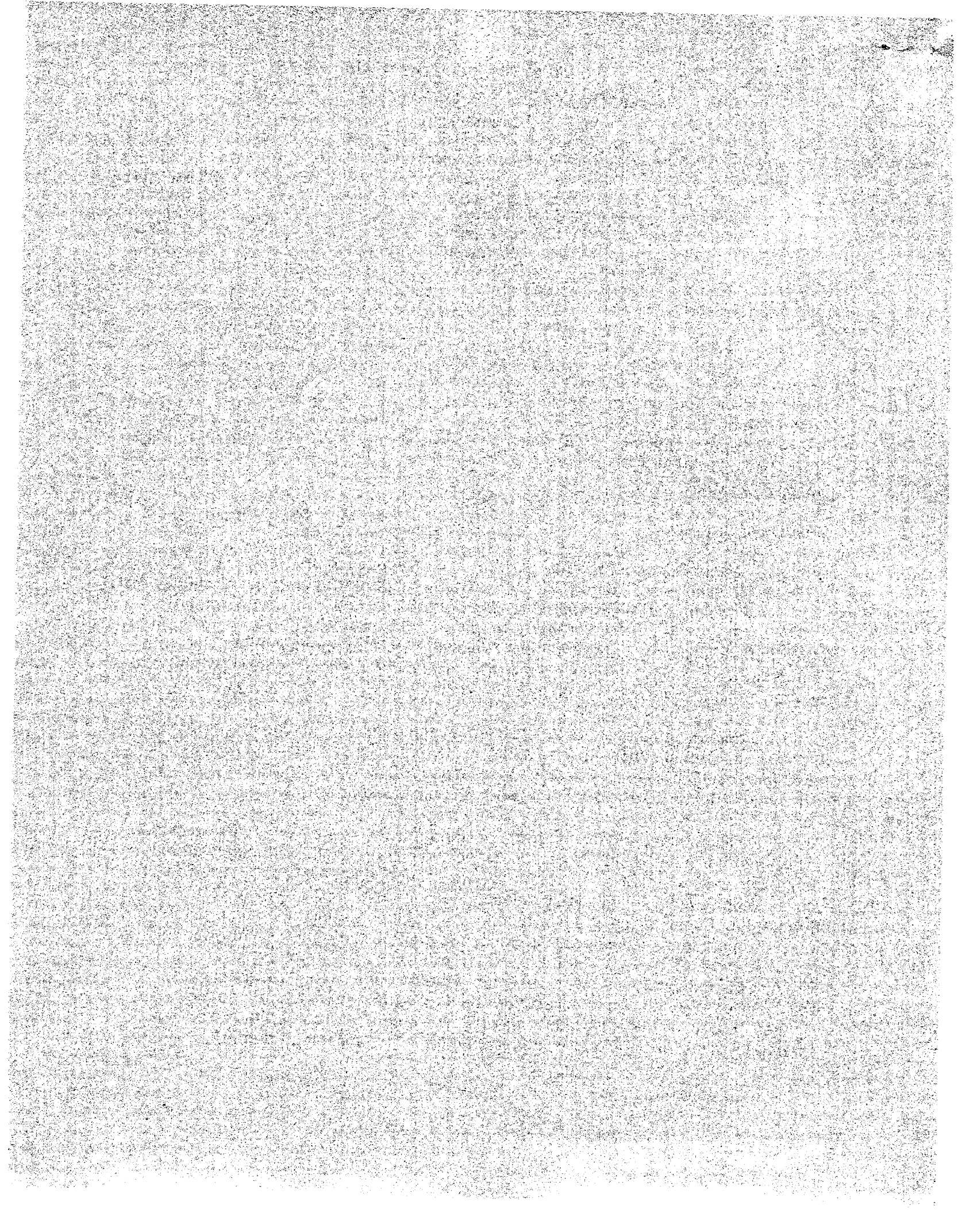
Subject: Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 61 Requesting the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) to Study Properties in or Around Kakaako and Recommend Appropriate Sites for a Fire Station

I am Manuel P. Neves, Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD). The HFD supports SCR 61, which requests the HCDA to study properties in or around Kakaako and recommend appropriate sites for a fire station.

The HFD determined that increased residential and transient populations, proposed high-rise residential structures, and additional commercial development necessitate the need for a new facility in the Kakaako area. The Kakaako Fire Station is over 40 years old and was not designed to accommodate the proposed growth.

The HFD is committed to meeting national standards for the delivery of first responder services. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is the industry leader in determining acceptable fire service standards throughout the United States. The HFD strives to achieve this objective by meeting the criteria set forth in NFPA 1710: Standard for Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Departments.

NFPA 1710 mandates that the travel time for the first-arriving unit responding to emergencies in urban communities, such as the Kakaako-Ala Moana area, be within four minutes. Every minute of increased travel time exacerbates the seriousness of an emergency, thus placing first responders and the community at greater risk.



The Honorable Tom Brower, Chair
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Over the past five years, the HFD has diligently worked to identify a suitable site for a new public safety facility. Our needs and potential locations for a new facility were discussed with major Kakaako-Ala Moana area landowners. The Department has also worked with state and City agencies to determine viable government-owned sites for public safety purposes. It is essential for the HFD to locate an appropriate site before available opportunities are lost to further redevelopment.

Life, safety, and property protection is the top priority for the HFD. This resolution will enable the HFD to identify ideal sites for a new fire station in order to optimize the delivery of emergency services to the growing Kakaako-Ala Moana community.

The HFD urges your committee to support SCR 161 as introduced.

Should you have questions, please contact Assistant Chief Nathan Ramos, Jr. of our Planning and Development division at 723-7106 or nramos@honolulu.gov.

Sincerely,



MANUEL P. NEVES
Fire Chief

MPN/NR:ms

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