

HAWAII COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



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KALAELOA

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STATEMENT OF  
**AEDWARD LOS BANOS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
BEFORE THE  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY,  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

Monday, March 25, 2019  
3:00 P.M.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

in consideration of

**SCR 61**  
**REQUESTING THE HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
AUTHORITY TO STUDY PROPERTIES IN OR AROUND KAKAAKO  
AND RECOMMEND APPROPRIATE SITES FOR A FIRE STATION.**

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee.

The Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) respectfully offers comments on SCR 61.

HCDA is grateful for the Honolulu Fire Department and all first responders for their service. If the Fire Department recommends that there be a new station in Kakaako, HCDA is supportive of their recommendations.

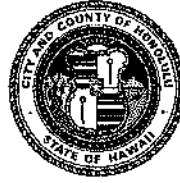
One well located fire station can provide more effective emergency response than several poorly located stations. Thus, with all due respect the Honolulu Fire Department has the expertise and better qualified than HCDA to study and make a recommendation for a fire station location, in Kakaako.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on SCR 61.

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-5007  
Phone: 808-723-7139 Fax: 808-723-7111 Internet: [www.honolulu.gov/hfd](http://www.honolulu.gov/hfd)

KIRK CALDWELL  
MAYOR



MANUEL P. NEVES  
FIRE CHIEF

LIONEL CAMARA JR.  
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

March 22, 2019

The Honorable Clarence Nishihara, Chair  
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental,  
and Military Affairs  
The State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 414  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara:

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. 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

The Honorable Clarence Nishihara, Chair  
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minutes. Every minute of increased travel time exacerbates the seriousness of an emergency, thus placing first responders and the community at greater risk. Over the past five years, the HFD has diligently worked to identify a suitable site for a new public safety facility. Our needs with were discussed with major Kakaako-Ala Moana area landowners and potential locations for a new facility were discussed. The Department has also worked with state and City agencies to determine if viable government-owned sites were available 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 that will 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](mailto:nramos@honolulu.gov).

Sincerely,



MANUEL P. NEVES  
Fire Chief

MPN/NRJ:cn