



Kahuku Community Association

March 28, 2022

RE: Testimony in Support for SCR 204

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and fellow WTL Committee Members,

Kahuku Community Association is writing in strong support for SCR204/SR197. To improve public transparency, the city must provide constructive notice to the public when considering and approving zoning variances.

It is unreasonable that the city can make these variance approvals and not publish them for public consideration. A prime example is what happened in Kahuku regarding the controversial Na Pua Makani Wind Project which led to a mass arrest of over 200 community members opposing this wind project. For 10 years, our Kahuku community opposed this project stating "Too Big, Too Close!" Proximity of these industrial wind turbines to our schools and residential homes were of great concern to our community. Despite our community's concern and opposition, the developer applied for a zoning variance to place two of the 586 feet turbines as close as 284 feet and 275 feet away from property lines and was given approval by DPP. Our community was not aware of this zoning variance request and approval by DPP as it did not require DPP to provide constructive notice to the public.

What happened to Kahuku is a travesty and a perfect example of why decisions on granting zoning variances should be published and made public. The granting or denial of waivers and zoning variances lacks transparency and prevents the public the opportunity to intervene, voice concerns, or oppose if documents regarding these decisions are not accessible to the public. SCR204 will allow greater transparency to the public and Kahuku Community Association strongly supports this resolution.

Respectfully,

Sunny Unga (e-sign)

Sunny Unga - President

Oriana McCallum - Vice President

Valeriano Garrido - Secretary

Laura Pickard- Treasurer

Melissa Ka'onohi-Camit - Director

Atalina Pasi - Director

Berenice Au- Director

SCR-204

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 11:47:50 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/30/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Choon James	Testifying for CountryTalkStory.com	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

We vigorously **SUPPORT** this resolution. As in all issues, Democracy needs a more open and transparent government that is public-friendly.

This submitted testimony by the Kahuku Community is provided out of real-life experiences and frontline citizens. Many of us were arrested during the month-long protest in Kahuku and Waianae Kalaeloa Barbers Point. It's not because the protestors were babarians and radicals. It was because the DUE PROCESS and ordinances and rules were violated and subverted by the very same entities who created these ordinances and rules.

Thank you.

Choon James

CountryTalkStory.com

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'ĀINA HAINA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

c/o 'Āina Haina Library, 5246 Kalanianaʻole Highway, Honolulu, HI 96821
ainahainaassoc@gmail.com; www.ainahaina.org

Jeanne Ohta, President • Melia Lane-Kamahele, Vice-President • Art Mori, Treasurer • Kathy Takemoto, Secretary • Directors At Large: Jeff Carlson, Wayson Chow, Meymo Rego, Marie Riley

March 30, 2022

TO: Senator Lorraine Inouye, Chair
Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair and
Members of the Committee on Water and Land

FROM: Jeanne Y. Ohta, President
'Āina Haina Community Association

RE: SCR 204 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING OF THE CITY
AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO PUBLISH ON ITS WEBSITE ALL DECISIONS REGARDING
WAIVERS AND VARIANCES.

The Board of Directors of the 'Āina Haina Community Association (AHCA) write in support of SCR 204 Requesting the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) publish all decisions regarding waivers and variances on its website.

The decisions of the DPP impact communities and the quality of life of residents. Because of the significance of their decisions, AHCA believes that DPP operations and decisions should be more transparent. Requiring publishing of decisions on waivers and variances on the DPP website is a good start. However, AHCA believes that applications for waivers and variances should be made public when they are submitted to the DPP so that community members are aware of those requests and have the opportunity to consider how those decisions will affect their neighborhood.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our testimony.



Hawaii's Thousand Friends

335 Hahani Street #342132 * Kailua, HI 96734 * Phone/Fax (808) 262-0682 E-Mail: htf3000@gmail.com

March 30, 2022

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Committee Members

SCR 204/SR 197

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO PUBLISH ON ITS WEBSITE ALL DECISIONS REGARDING WAIVERS AND VARIANCES

Hawaii's Thousand Friends, a non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring that growth is reasonable and responsible and that planning and land use decisions protect natural and cultural resources and human health and are implemented in conformity with the law supports SCR 204/SR 197 that requests the O`ahu Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) publish all decisions regarding waivers and variances on its website.

DPP oversees functions critical to ensuring public safety and comprehensive land use planning such as: administering the Land Use Ordinance and other regulations pertaining to land use, preparing the O`ahu General Plan, Development and Sustainable Community Plans, Transit Oriented Development, and enforcing the building, electrical, housing, plumbing, energy and zoning codes.

The public's trust in DPP to protect the public, enforce our laws and do their job in the public's interest has been declining for years and the recent arrests seem to justify that lack of trust.

It has been disheartening, disappointing and sad to watch as people supposedly working on the public's behalf at DPP have been accused of accepting bribes.

As a first step toward regaining public trust and openness in an agency that the public no longer trusts or believes is working for the people we urge you to pass SCR 204/SR 197.

SCR-204

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 1:15:40 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/30/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Merania Kekaula	Individual	Comments	In Person

Comments:

I neither oppose nor support this resolution on the grounds that it is illegal since turbines are already built - to support or oppose a variance for turbines already built is nonsense & illegal because you can't have the variance after the fact. This helps the crooks only & leaves the community to bear the financial and health burdens and allows the thieves in govt and big business to get off scot free. Let this resolution die already & don't give crooks wiggle room to get away with erecting two silent killers too close to our kids schools. Those turbine blades contain toxins that are being released into the air only to end up in the food chain - this resolution does nothing to tear down those turbines - & that should be the ultimate goal of all people concerned about the future of an environmentally clean HAWAII.

SCR-204

Submitted on: 3/28/2022 11:17:30 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/30/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ramsey Calimlim	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill/measure. The community/public should be made aware of any changes/zoning variances pending for development before approval. Again, I strongly support SCR204/SR197.

SCR-204

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 4:50:15 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/30/2022 1:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Richards	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support for SCR204/SR197. To improve public transparency, the city must provide constructive notice to the public when considering and approving zoning variances.

It is unreasonable that the city can make these variance approvals and not publish them for public consideration. A prime example is what happened in Kahuku regarding the controversial Na Pua Makani Wind Project which led to a mass arrest of over 200 community members opposing this wind project. For 10 years, the Kahuku community opposed this project stating “Too Big, Too Close!” Proximity of these industrial wind turbines to our schools and residential homes were of great concern to our community. Despite the community’s opposition, the developer applied for a zoning variance to place two of the 586’ tall turbines as close as 284’ and 275’ away from property lines and was given approval by DPP. The community was not aware of this zoning variance request and approval by DPP as it did not require DPP to provide constructive notice to the public.

What happened to Kahuku is a travesty and a perfect example of why decisions on granting zoning variances should be published and made public. The granting or denial of waivers and zoning variances lacks transparency and prevents the public the opportunity to intervene, voice concerns, or oppose if documents regarding these decisions are not accessible to the public. SR204 will allow greater transparency to the public. I strongly support this resolution.

LATE

SCR-204

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 6:33:52 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/30/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Constance Dela Cruz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern:

It is unreasonable that the city can make these variance approvals and not publish them for public consideration. A prime example is what happened in Kahuku regarding the controversial Na Pua Makani Wind Project which led to a mass arrest of over 200 community members opposing this wind project. For 10 years, our Kahuku community opposed this project stating “Too Big, Too Close!” Proximity of these industrial wind turbines to our schools and residential homes were of great concern to our community. Despite our community’s opposition, the developer applied for a zoning variance to place two of the 586’ tall turbines as close as 284’ and 275’ away from property lines and was given approval by DPP. Our community was not aware of this zoning variance request and approval by DPP as it did not require DPP to provide constructive notice to the public.

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Mahalo for your consideration,
Constance & Elpidio Dela Cruz

SCR-204

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 1:19:37 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/30/2022 1:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Saleia Tuia	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Saleia Tuia strongly support SCR204/SR197. To improve public transparency, the city must provide constructive notice to the public when considering and approving zoning variances. It doesn't make sense to leave the public in the dark because, in most situations, if not all situations, the communities are the ones being greatly impacted by these projects and developments. It is only reasonable to keep these communities in the loop. Transparency is crucial in maintaining communication, respect, peace, and accountability between everyone involved.

LATE

SCR-204

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 2:17:33 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/30/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kamalani Keliikuli	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this measure