



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII SYSTEM

John Morton Vice President for Community Colleges

July 13, 2010

The Honorable Todd Apo, Chair Honolulu City Council City and County of Honolulu Honolulu Hale 530 South King Street Honolulu, HI 96813

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Dear Chair Apo:

I write in support of Resolution 10-144 granting a Special Management Area use Permit for the Kapi'olani Community College Culinary Institute of the Pacific (Applicant: Kapi'olani Community College, University of Hawai'i).

As Vice-President for Community Colleges, I have overall responsibility for the development of the community colleges. We seek in this application the first of the City and County entitlements necessary for us to develop an advanced culinary education program within the State of Hawai'i. Currently, no such program exists despite the fact that nearly 800 students are enrolled in two-year culinary education programs throughout the State. The only alternative available to those students seeking advanced training is to go to the mainland at great expense. We want to create this opportunity here on the slopes of Diamond Head.

More than just serving our students we wish to support the economic development of Honolulu and the State. The food industry has changed significantly (for the better) and is now an important part of the local economy. Having an advanced program available locally will help ensure that high quality chefs, restaurant owners, and food service managers will continue to build the industry. We also plan to attract students from the mainland and Asia and that the Culinary Institute of the Pacific will itself be part of economic development for Honolulu.

We have worked closely with the Diamond Head Citizens Advisory Committee and other neighborhood groups to ensure that the design is compatible with the Diamond Head Master Plan and with the special place that Diamond Head is. We think we have succeeded.

I urge the Council to approve this permit. With your help we will make the Culinary Institute of the Pacific at Diamond Head a reality.

John Morton Vice President for Community Colleges

MISC. COM. 1179

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