

**From:** Mary King [lanikaimary@msn.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 17, 2012 10:50 PM

**Subject:** Parks and Cultural Affairs Committee Testimony

Aloha Park and Cultural Affairs members, I would like to give you some history re Kalama Beach park, also known for years as the Boettcher house and grounds. The City was able to purchase this property in 1978 for only \$150,000 with the help of Mae Boettcher who offered a low price, and with Federal park funds, to make it a huge bargain for the City. The neighbors were not happy to get a park next door, so the original agreement included a City sanction that a Kalama Beach Park Advisory Council be set up to create rules and regulations that would make this park a good neighbor, a first I think. I was Chairman of this Council for over ten years: we met twice a month for more than a year and then at least twice a year after. We were successful in that there were very few complaints from neighbors, and the whole surrounding community was happy to have this open way to the beach, with later in 1992 a comfort station and shower which ended the problem of toilet paper wadded up in the bushes along the shore. Members of our Council worked so hard to get a new roof donated to the City, and other improvements not in the budget. Never did we think, in all our efforts to make this small park a benefit for all the residents, that someday it might be made into a tourist destination, so we did not address this at the time.

I am asking you to not allow tour buses or any concession at this special park used presently by residents walking to it from their homes. The parking lot has remained small for a purpose—the Council turned down requests for more stalls to limit congestion and noise. It is a neighborhood treasure and should be treated like one!

Mahalo for your attention. Mary King 11 Aalapapa Place, Kailua 2612891

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