

Dear City Council Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask for your support for Bill 10, regarding carsharing.

I am a Waikiki resident and I fully support carsharing because I want to use carsharing and my family and friends also want to use carsharing. We would prefer to use carsharing instead of owning a car because it is easier, more economical and more flexible than owning a car. I also do not need a car very often, so having access to a carshare vehicle is a perfect way to get around and do errands, when I need to. I usually walk, bike or take the bus, but when I need to go grocery shopping or pick up family or friends for an event, I would love to have access to a carsharing vehicle. It is a perfect complement to my multi-modal lifestyle and if more people had access to carsharing vehicles, if they were easily available throughout urban Honolulu, I believe a large portion of the population would start using carsharing instead of depending on their personal vehicles and having to pay for parking, gas and insurance. Not having to pay for these costs and just using a car when it is needed will help our entire community be less car dependent - leading to a healthier, more sustainable community.

I hope you will join me and my friends and family in Waikiki, Kaimuki, Kaka'ako and Chinatown by supporting carshare. We all want an easy and economical way to get around and carsharing is just that -- it's a sustainable alternative that encourages use of the bus, walking, and biking.

It is my understanding that Bill 10 proposes the cost of parking places and this dollar amount seems very high. Is it possible to reduce this dollar amount so that carsharing will be economical to residents, like it is in other cities? If Honolulu makes the cost of carsharing higher than in other cities, people will not use it and it will not work. The cost must be low enough that carsharing becomes popular and helps people get out of their own personal vehicles. If the cost is too high, this will not happen and we will not see the shift we want to see toward more multi-modal transportation. I hope this makes sense. If you are interested in learning more about carsharing in other cities, Susan Shaheen from Berkeley's Transportation Sustainability Research Center (<http://tsrc.berkeley.edu/SusanShaheen>) is the Innovative Mobility Research Director and an amazing resource and has authored many papers about the benefits to carsharing. I encourage you to talk with her and/or take a look at her studies and you will find that carsharing is a great idea and really helps get people out of their cars -- if it is easily available and affordable.

Please support Bill 10.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Asia Yeary
Waikiki Resident

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