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April 17, 2015

To: Council Chair Ernie Martin

From: Ron Romano, Executive Director, United States Tennis Association Hawaii Pacific (USTA)

Re: Bill 75-CD1 and Bill 13-CD1

Dear Council Chair Martin,

The USTA fully supports and endorses Bill 75-CD1 and Bill 13-CD1.

Prior to passing Ordinance 10-1.12 it was communicated that park user fees would go directly to the improvement of CORP and this has not been the case. It is obvious to everyone that the current park budget is not adequate to maintain the park at a minimal level.

The USTA adopted the tennis facility at CORP as part of the city's Adopt a Park Program. We have donated golf carts, windscreens, water movers, benches, scorekeepers, and other supplies and equipment as part of the Adopt a Park Program. In addition, we organize several "clean up" days where by groups of volunteers and USTA staff will trim foliage, wash tennis courts, empty trash, install windscreens, and do other projects to help maintain the tennis facility at CORP.

The USTA is the largest user of the tennis facility at CORP and as such we pay approximately \$25,000 annually in park user fees. These fees do not go into improvements at CORP so we are paying a fee for a product that does not meet the minimally acceptable level of maintenance.

The USTA is the national governing body of tennis and as such we sanction and organize major state, national, and international tennis events that generate both media exposure and money into our economy. Unfortunately, we have relocated most of these events to the neighbor islands where they have resort tennis facilities that are maintained at the highest level. We do economic impact statements and many of the events are significant economic drivers like the Royal Lahaina Challenger, Hawaii's only professional tennis tournament.

The USTA fully supports Bill 75-CD1 to have park user fees go directly to improvement in the park. The USTA also fully supports Bill 13-CD1 to set aside \$500,000 toward improvements in CORP to bring up to an acceptable standard for local residents and for state, national, and international events.

Thank you.

Ron

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