



RESOLUTION

ESTABLISHING A CITY POLICY TO EXPEDITE THE CLOSURE OF THE WAIMANALO GULCH SANITARY LANDFILL AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES.

WHEREAS, the provision of solid waste capacity is a critical infrastructure element provided by the City and is vital to solid waste management on Oahu; and

WHEREAS, the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill (WGSL) is Oahu's only municipal solid waste landfill; and

WHEREAS, in 1987, the State Land Use Commission (LUC) by Docket No. SP87-362 approved a special use permit to establish the WGSL on 60.5 acres of land in Honouliuli, Ewa, Oahu; and

WHEREAS, in 1989, the LUC approved an amendment to the special use permit by the inclusion of an additional 26 acres of land for a total special permit area of 86.5 acres; and

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2003, the State Land Use Commission (LUC) voted to approve an additional amendment to the special use permit to expand the WGSL by an additional 21 acres, subject to certain conditions, including a condition that the WGSL be restricted from accepting any further municipal waste material and be closed on May 1, 2008; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2008, the LUC extended the special use permit closure deadline from May 1, 2008, to November 1, 2009; and

WHEREAS, on October 22, 2009, the LUC by Docket No. SP09-403 approved a new special use permit that allowed a 92.5-acre expansion and time extension of the WGSL, provided that only ash and residue from Honolulu's waste-to energy facility, H-POWER, would be permitted at the WGSL after July 31, 2012; and

WHEREAS, on April 23, 2015, Mayor Kirk Caldwell dedicated a new waste receiving facility at the City-owned waste-to-energy plant in Campbell Industrial Park that will divert 40,000 tons of sludge and bulky waste from the WGSL annually while generating clean, renewable energy, reducing greenhouse gases, and generating no odor; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of such new waste disposal methods reduces the need to rely on municipal landfills for the disposal of solid waste; and



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WHEREAS, the Council acknowledges the expressed wishes of many Oahu residents and businesses that the existing Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill operation be closed, as indicated by previous City administrations; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that a City policy is established to expedite the closure of the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill and the implementation of sustainable waste management practices; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City administration is urged to proceed with technical studies and analyses, including an environmental impact statement, to evaluate in detail alternative sustainable waste management technologies to expedite the closure of the WGSL; and



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BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor and the Managing Director.

INTRODUCED BY:

Stephany Perie

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

JUN 9 2015

Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers