

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Sunday, February 07, 2016 11:04 PM
Subject: Parks, Community & Customer Services Speaker Registration/Testimony

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Speaker Registration/Testimony

2016 FEB -8 AM 7:45

All fields marked "*" are required and must be completed in order for this form to be valid.
Note: Registrations are not accepted prior to the agendas being posted.

Name(*) Emily Guerrero
Phone (*) 8083215259
Email (*) emilybg@hawaii.edu
Meeting Date (*) 2016-02-09
Council/PH Committee (*) Parks
Agenda Item (*) Bill 9
Your position on the matter (*) Support
Representing (*) Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? (*) No

Written Testimony

Emily Guerrero: Testimony in Support of Bill 9 As a member of the Ulu A'e Learning Center, I have participated in the Adopt-a-Park Program. We have adopted Pu'u o Kapolei which is located at the top of Kapolei Regional Park. It's an ideal place for hula, gathering plants, lauhala weaving, and just hanging out. It's a place that everyone could enjoy, if only they knew it existed. Oftentimes, park-goers stop me to ask about this place. Many people are shocked when they hear the history and cultural significance of the Pu'u located right in their community. In 2009, I coordinated community workdays in collaboration with the Kapolei Hawaiian Civic Club, Mālama Learning Center, and Hālau 'O Kaululaua'e. Volunteers help with gardening, graffiti removal, and disposing of litter. Vandalism, substance abuse, and homelessness have become a problem at Pu'u o Kapolei. At every visit this year, I have encountered at least one homeless person and numerous beer bottles. These community issues, if not managed, will continue to devalue the importance of the Pu'u. We need a program that designates sites of cultural value located in city public parks. Don't allow public negligence. Support Hawaiian clubs and community members in their mission to restore Hawai'i. Share the beauty of cultural sites and make these places accessible and pleasant for locals and tourists alike.