

March 02, 2016

2016 MAR -2 AM 8: 35

Dear Chair Martin, Vice Chair Anderson and Councilmembers:

Re: Testimony – Bill 11 (2016) & Resolution 16-37

My name is Fred Kubota and I live in Moanalua Village.

I respectfully submit this testimony in support of Bill 11 (2016), A Bill For An Ordinance to regulate the interim period for the issuance of building permits in the area commonly referred to as Aiea, Red Hill, Moanalua and Salt Lake in the City and County of Honolulu and Resolution 16-37.

There are major traffic congestions in the morning and afternoon at the Red Hill-Moanalua and Salt Lake area. The traffic congestion in the morning at the intersection of Moanalua Road and Ala Kapuna Street is extremely congested and time consuming in the morning. The intersection handles the traffic from Moanalua Valley and Salt Lake going west and also from Moanalua Village, Hillside apartments and the military residents crossing over the freeway.

To exit from Moanalualani Place is a major challenge and a major safety issue. Cars exiting Hillside apartments are not yielding/stopping when entering Ala Kapuna Street from Hillside apartments. My understanding is cars entering from a private driveway onto a public street should yield/stop. However, there is no sign informing the cars exiting from the Hillside apartments that they should be yielding/stopping. My understanding is that the Hillside management was asked to install a stop sign several months ago to help with the situation but nothing has been done. To think that they would help address and participate in resolving a greater traffic problem does not appear to be a reasonable assumption.

In the afternoon, the traffic on Moanalua Road going west is also a challenge. There are many times when the traffic is backed up east of Kaiser Hospital.

I do appreciate when the state, city and developers are trying to help with Hawaii's housing issues but there should also be responsibility and accountability to not cause other residents to unnecessarily bear the burden. The state, city and developers should also address the problems to mitigate the problems caused by the development to assure the collateral damages/issues are not unnecessarily borne by the existing residents. The developer should also share in the cost of correcting or preventing the collateral damages/issues. After all, developers are building housing not just to help with the housing issue but to make a profit.

Therefore, with the pending Hillside development expansion, I am asking you for your support and pass Bill 11 (2016) and Resolution 16-37 to allow time to assess and potentially correct the traffic issues. The traffic during the morning and afternoon rush hours is somewhat unbearable. Just imagine what the traffic would be like after the Hillside development is completed if no modifications are done.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Fred Kubota
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