

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, May 09, 2016 11:53 AM

**Subject:** Budget Speaker Registration/Testimony  
**Attachments:** 20160509115329\_budget committee testimony.docx

## ~~Speaker Registration~~/Testimony

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(*)	Catherine Graham
Phone (*)	8087414317
Email (*)	dreamaloha@hawaii.rr.com
Meeting Date (*)	2016-05-10
Council/PH Committee (*)	Budget
Agenda Item (*)	Mayor's Budget
Your position on the matter (*)	Support
Representing (*)	Organization
Organization	FACE - Faith Action for Community Equity
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? (*)	Yes
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	20160509115329_budget committee testimony.docx
Accept Terms and Conditions (*)	1

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Aloha Chair Kobayashi and Budget Committee members,

I'm Catherine Graham and I am the co-chair, along with Rev. Bob Nakata of the FACE Housing Task Force and also the Housing Now! Coalition, which is made up of even more member groups than FACE.

As you know, our mission is to advocate and agitate for affordable housing. And affordable for us really means for those who are at the 60% of AMI and below.

So far, in your budget, you have put in money for Hale Mauliola's continuing operation. Thank you.

You have allotted funds for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Housing First. Thank you.

You are budgeting for the upgrading of our sewer system, without which no more developing can even be considered. Thank you.

In the past, you allowed for \$64 million from GO bonds to be used for acquisition and development of new affordable housing projects. Thank you.

You have shown your commitment to our homeless and houseless and at risk of being homeless residents. We thank you.

But, as affordable housing advocates, we think that you can do even more that will help the development of affordable housing units to happen even quicker. You can allow for adequate monies to be used to staff the acquisition and development efforts. Not staffing these efforts can potentially be seen by the public as the council playing politics and not wanting the mayor's Housing Policy to succeed.

But we, at FACE, question your commitment to really providing enough housing to end our housing crisis. We believe that everything possible needs to be done to increase our affordable housing inventory. You are providing for "some" of the things that need to be done – but you are putting up a huge obstacle by not providing the staffing to acquire new projects – and then funds to operate the projects once they are built.

Please reconsider your position. Please put the needs of our community before, what is seen as, your political agenda.

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