

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 28, 2016 5:24 PM

**Subject:** Council Speaker Registration/Testimony

## 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(\*)** Nancy Davlantes  
**Phone (\*)** 808-247-3681  
**Email (\*)** ndavlantes@aol.com  
**Meeting Date (\*)** 2016-05-31  
**Council/PH Committee (\*)** Council  
**Agenda Item (\*)** reinstatement of \$1,950,000 for Thomas Square in Bill 15 (2016) CD2  
**Your position on the matter (\*)** Comment  
**Representing (\*)** Self  
**Organization**  
**Do you wish to speak at the hearing? (\*)** No

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**Written Testimony**

Thomas Square is arguably one of the most significant parks in Honolulu. It is Hawaii's first park and one of Hawaii's most important historic sites. It was the site where King Kamehameha III first uttered our now state motto, "Ua Mau ke Ea o ka 'Āina i ka Pono," (the life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness), on Restoration Day 1843, when the Kingdom of Hawaii was restored from British control. The park also played a key role in the use of the Hawaiian flag, which became the official flag of the kingdom and the State of Hawaii, and was the home of the Royal Hawaiian Band and the original site of the University of Hawai'i. City officials have met with hundreds of stakeholders over the past 18 months, and based on the public's comments, a draft plan was developed for restoring the park, which, over the next six months, will be refined based on

further stakeholder input. The FY2017 funds (\$1,950,000) for Thomas Square renovation are essential for meeting the 175th anniversary goal. These funds are being used to pay for re-grassing, restoring the paths, sidewalks, benches, flagpole and particularly the trees. Without these funds it will be impossible to meet the 175th anniversary goal of this basic part of the park's restoration. Unfortunately, the City Council has cancelled the FY2017 funding needed to restore the park. The last major renovation was in 1967, and it's time to restore the park to the rightful status and condition it deserves.

**Testimony  
Attachment**

**Accept Terms and  
Conditions (\*)** 1