URGING THE CITY, STATE OF HAWAII, AND PRIVATE LANDOWNERS TO WORK TOGETHER TO MITIGATE FLOODING IN MANOA.

WHEREAS, heavy rains in September of 2016 resulted in severe flooding of many homes in Manoa and rock slides into the yards of many of these homes, with some rocks the size of volleyballs; and

WHEREAS, it is the Council's belief that the flooding and inundation of rocks were caused in large part by the failure of the City, State, and private entities to properly manage the drainage of the flood waters and maintain existing drainageways; and

WHEREAS, it is the Council's understanding that the flooding of the homes was exacerbated by the City's failure to clear blocked storm drains; and

WHEREAS, it is the Council's further understanding that one of the streets with blocked storm drains is Huelani Drive, and neither the City nor the State maintain the storm drains on this street since the State claims that the street is owned by the City and the City claims the street is privately owned; and

WHEREAS, Section 46-11.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), requires that the counties maintain all channels, streambeds, streambanks, and drainageways under their jurisdiction unless the channels, streambeds, streambanks and drainageways are privately owned or owned by the State, in which case the latter are responsible for such maintenance; and

WHEREAS, it is the Council's understanding that City, State, and Federal agencies have been working together since 2004 to address flood mitigation measures; and

WHEREAS, the State Department of Land and Natural Resources installed two water disbursement channel structures to help prevent property damage to Manoa homes; and

WHEREAS, the City is responsible for the cleaning and maintenance of these drainage structures; and

WHEREAS, the Council believes that the City, State, and private landowners must work together to clear and maintain the blocked drainageways and storm drains and must construct additional flood mitigation improvements in order to prevent further flooding; now, therefore,
BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that it urges the City, State of Hawaii, and private landowners to cooperatively maintain existing drainageways and storm drains and to expedite the construction of flood mitigation improvements for the Manoa neighborhood for streets such as Huelani Drive, Huelani Place, Rainbow Drive, and Oahu Avenue; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the State of Hawaii, the Director of the Hawaii State Department of Land and Natural Resources and the Mayor.

INTRODUCED BY:

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

Honolulu, Hawaii