

**From:** Young III, L Keanu  
**Sent:** Friday, April 16, 2010 3:09 PM  
**To:**  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Council Meeting Testimony

I am Noelle Sutherland (Mrs James M. Conti). I was raised in Waialua and Haleiwa and am now a homeowner, resident and voter in Wahiawa. I am a university of Hawaii graduate as well.

All through my growing up and now in my older years, I have enjoyed the Royal Hawaiian Band in concerts and at special events. Often for us country folks, the Royal Hawaiian Band was the only taste of live, especially concert-type orchestral music that the kids might have seen well into their teens before they might catch a "free" or gifted Honolulu Symphony concert. It is imperative for the education and enjoyment of our citizenry that some aspect or portion of the Royal Hawaiian Band's repertoire or musicians exist in our community EVEN IN THESE HARD ECONOMIC TIMES.

I see from the schedule of their performances, that many of their offerings are for the tourists as in Ala Moana or Waikiki. I would suggest that more concerts be arranged for and kept for the outlying areas of Oahu and some fewer ones for the city and tourists. I also noticed during the concert given for the Mayor's Senior Recognition Program at the Hawaii Convention Center recently that the band was huge and loud. Many wonderful professionals for sure but perhaps we have gotten too grandiose in our presentations by the band. Most of us are happy with just the band sound, brass, winds, and a few singers and dancers but not so many or so much sound. It has gotten so many folks expect huge amplification. Not necessary.

The Band has consented to come to the Wahiawa Pineapple Festival, an event held for 50 plus years in our community and that fits into the band's appearing at " Cultural Community Events" directive. At one point during the negotiations for stage space, there was the sense that if we did not have an enormous stage for the band that the band "might not be able to come". I don't want to characterize this exchange as a threat but if we were to comply we would have come outside of the "hard economic times" budget we had set for ourselves in order for the Wahiawa Historical Society to produce the Festival which had fallen on hard times and was in danger of being put aside for yet another year. Again, perhaps the band has gotten so big that it feels it can no longer serve the entire island as it once did.

To conclude, Please save the RHB in some lesser or smaller and less-often seen and heard status but still protected and revered until such time as it can come out more gradually into full but not necessarily enormous beauty. Aloha, and Mahalo from the County

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