

## Residents Testimony

June 25, 2023

Honolulu Planning Commission  
[dpp@honolulu.gov](mailto:dpp@honolulu.gov)

**RE: Community Residents Support Increased Oversight of the Landfill Siting Process**

Dear Honolulu Planning Commission,

As a resident of Ko Olina, please accept this testimony in **favor of increased oversight** by the Honolulu Planning Commission of the process to reevaluate options to explore potential landfill sites outside the No Pass Zone. The options of exploring the use of federal lands outside the Board of Water Supply No Pass Zone and working with the state legislature on new law or amending Act 73 should have been pursued prior to the initiation of the Landfill Advisory Council (LAC).

It has been a long road to get to this point. Department of Environmental Services (ENV) has not met its deadlines all along the way. The State Land Use Commission (LUC) previously ordered the ENV to close the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill (WGSL) by 2008 and to select a new site by 2004. Those deadlines were not met. The ENV was later ordered to begin the process of identifying and developing a new site by 2010. No site was selected. The LUC most recently set a deadline of December 31, 2022 for the City to identify an alternative landfill site to WGSL. That deadline was also missed.

I am a proud resident of West O'ahu and request the Planning Commission to hold ENV accountable. My community bears the burden of having the landfill mauka of our homes. You may recall the storms that washed medical waste from WGSL onto our beaches where our keiki play. We have housed the landfill in our community long enough. It is time for ENV to do its job and find a viable new location for our island's waste.

I support the closure of WGSL in my community. ENV must be held to its closure deadline of March 2, 2028. Please provide additional oversight so that ENV does not waste more time and tax dollars delaying the identification of viable landfill site alternatives. ENV has eroded my community's trust in this process. Oversight by the Planning Commission will provide my community reassurance that the risks and benefits associated with the proposed designation of a new site are properly taken into consideration.

Sincerely,

*Karen Messick*

Karen L Messick  
92-1072 Olani Street Apt 2  
Kapolei, HI 96707

**EXHIBIT K311**

**From:** Karen Messick <[karenmessick@aol.com](mailto:karenmessick@aol.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 26, 2023 10:55 AM  
**To:** Department of Planning and Permitting <[dpp@honolulu.gov](mailto:dpp@honolulu.gov)>  
**Cc:** Kristin Vasquez <[Kristin.Vasquez@koolina.com](mailto:Kristin.Vasquez@koolina.com)>  
**Subject:** Special Use Permit Waimanalo Gulch

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Aloha,  
Please see attached my resident letter.  
Mahalo,  
Karen Messick