

LiUNA!

HAWAII LABORERS UNION (LIUNA) LOCAL 368

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Hearing: Land Use Commission Date: June 24, 2020

Place: Zoom Meeting Time: 9:00 a.m.

RE: A17-804 Hawaiian Memorial Life Plan, Ltd.

Aloha Commission Chair Scheuer, Commission Vice-Chair Cabral, and Commissioners,

The Hawaii Laborers Union (LiUNA), Local 368 is made up of over 5000 working and retired members across the State of Hawaii and we would like to take this opportunity to express our <u>support</u> of agenda item A17-804 Hawaiian Memorial Life Plan proposed expansion of Hawaii Memorial Park.

We understand the land conservation, habitat and cultural preservation concerns of the opponents to this expansion. We feel that Hawaiian Memorial Park has significantly scaled back and altered their expansion from their original plan in consideration of those concerns.

There is also a need to provide those who wish to be laid to rest in a the more traditional manner, with a place to accommodate their final request. With a growing elderly population, we can expect over the next decade that the demand for burial plots to grow with limited plots and land available to accommodate these more traditional wishes.

Hence, we feel that in balancing the concerns against the needs of the community, that Hawaiian Memorial Park has taken these concerns into consideration and has provided the community with a thoughtful and considerate plan.

Therefore, the Hawaii Laborers' Union; Local 368 and its 5000 members across the State of Hawaii **support** agenda item A17-804 Hawaiian Memorial Life Plan, Ltd.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on this matter.

Respectfully,

Ryan Kobayashi Government Affairs Hawaii Laborers' Union; Local 368 1617 Palama Street Honolulu, HI 96817

LiUNA Local 368 1617 Palama Street Honolulu, HI 96817 Phone: (808) 841-5877 Fax: (808) 847-7829 www.local368.org



Mr. Jonathan Likeke Scheuer, Chair and Members State Land Use Commission Post Office Box 2359 Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Dear Chair Scheuer and Members:

In addition to the numerous environmental concerns and the endangered Hawaiian Damselfly, the request by Hawaiian Memorial Life Plan's to reclassify this conservation land important because conservation land is just that, conservation land. The purchase of conservation land serves a purpose to the community and the request to amend or convert conservation land to an urban district in order for a business should be scrutinized.

Hawaiian Memorial is a for-profit business and should not be able to convert land that was purchased for conservation into land that will be sold for a profit.

My suggestion is there should be economic terms attached to any approval for a conversion to urban request, not just that of HMP. Terms should include the landowner paying the difference between the purchase price of the conservation land and the current fair market rate to the appropriate agency (state or county), property tax differences paid to the county, and the funds collected used to enhance the community in which the business is located, in this case the community of Kaneohe.

The reclassification of conservation land should not be done without scrutiny especially when a for-profit corporation intends on profiting from land purchased as conservation land.

Sincerely,

Erin Yamashita