

**WAIPAHU NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NUMBER 22
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OF EWA FIELD**

Whereas historic Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Ewa, one of the first airfields in Hawaii, was established in 1925; and

Whereas the US Navy, which had owned the property, has transferred 499 acres of land, including parcels containing the former Marine Corps Air Station, to private developer Ford Island Properties LLC, a subsidiary of Texas-based Hunt Companies; and

Whereas the transfer took place without the historic resource inventory analysis requested by the Historic Preservation Division of the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, a survey that would have cataloged the historically significant architectural, archaeological and cultural elements of the property; and

Whereas Ford Island Properties has not made public its intentions for the land, but given its prime location near the Barbers Point Golf Course and the 67-acre shopping center being planned by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, it is safe to assume that it will make an attractive site for development; and

Whereas MCAS Ewa was a designated mooring site for the US Navy's dirigible program of the 1930's; and

Whereas MCAS Ewa was the first US facility attacked by naval air forces of the Empire of Japan on December 7th 1941; and

Whereas four United States Marines (Sergeant William E. Lutschan, Sergeant Karolo Micheletta, Private First Class William George Turner and Private First Class Edward Steven Lawrence) gave their lives defending the air station; and

Whereas two innocent civilian residents of the Ewa community, six-year-old Yaeko Lillian Oda and 34-year-old Francisco Tacderan, were also killed by the attacking Japanese naval air forces; and

Whereas MCAS Ewa was the major United States Marine Corps aviation headquarters in the Pacific during World War II and a staging and transit point for all Marine aviation assets moving into the combat zones of the South Pacific; and was also the place to which all Marine aviation assets returned after hard combat against the air, naval, and ground forces of the Empire of Japan; and

Whereas MCAS Ewa is the birthplace of Marine Fighter Squadron Two One Four, made famous as "The "Black Sheep," as well as other famous Marine aviation units; and

Waipahu Neighborhood Board No. 22 Resolution in Support of historic preservation of Ewa Field, November 20th 2008

Whereas MCAS Ewa Field is being considered by the President of the United States to establish the airfield at Ewa as an expansion of the Pearl Harbor National Monument; and

Whereas, support for the objectives of this Resolution has been independently expressed by numerous organizations and dignitaries including the Naval Air Museum Barbers Point, Hawaii; The Marine Corps League; the Flying Leatherneck Museum; State Senators Will Espero and Mike Gabbard; State Representatives Rida Cabanilla and Kymberly Pine; Members of the Oahu Veterans' Council; Lieutenant General Henry Stackpole USMC (Retired); Brigadier General Jerome Hagen USMC (Retired); Brigadier General Robert Butcher USMC (Retired), John Bond; and many others; now therefore

Be it resolved that MCAS Ewa Field either be designated by the President of the United States as an expansion of the Pearl Harbor National Monument; or be designated a National American Battlefield by the National Park Service; and that it be registered as a National Historic Landmark; and

Be it further resolved that the aforementioned Historic Preservation Division be permitted to inventory MCAS Ewa Field's historic elements; and

Be it further resolved that Ford Island Properties LLC and the Hawaii Community Development Authority work together with the community on development plans for the area that would include the preservation of MCAS Ewa Field; and

Be it further resolved that the members of the Hawaii Congressional Delegation actively support the preservation of historic MCAS Ewa Field and encourage all parties involved to actively cooperate in achieving that objective; and

Be it finally resolved that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the President of the United States; all members of Hawaii's Congressional delegation; the Secretary of Defense; the Secretary of the Navy; the Commander, United States Pacific Fleet; the Commandant of the Marine Corps; the Commander, US Marine Corps Forces Pacific; the Director, National Park Service; the Governor of the State of Hawaii; all members of the Hawaii State Legislature; the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources; the Mayor, members of the City Council, Managing Director, Director of Parks and Recreation and the Director of the Office of Economic Development (all of the City and County of Honolulu); Ford Island Properties LLC; and to all Neighborhood Boards.

Adopted by Waipahu Neighborhood Board No. 22 at its regular meeting November 20th 2008 by unanimous consent