



DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR
MICHAEL A. DAHLIG, MANAGING DIRECTOR

July 6, 2021

TESTIMONY OF KA'AINA HULL, COUNTY OF KAUAI PLANNING DIRECTOR, WALLACE REZENTES JR., DEPUTY DIRECTOR DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION, AND TROY TANIGAWA, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

BEFORE THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Friday, July 9, 2021

Location, Online via ZOOM, Livestream via YouTube

Item K-2: Conservation District Use Application for Programmatic Statewide Small Scale Beach Restoration (SSBR) Program

Board of Land and Natural Resources Members:

Suzanne D. Case, Chairperson

Christopher Yuen, Hawai'i Member

Thomas Oi, Kauai Member

Dr. Samuel "Oahu" Gon III, O'ahu Member

Vernon Char, At Large

Wesley "Kaiwi" Yoon, At Large

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in STRONG SUPPORT OF the Conservation District Use Application for the Programmatic Statewide Small Scale Beach Restoration (SSBR) Program.

Our agencies are supportive of this effort by the State to facilitate nature-based solutions for beach erosion management to preserve beaches for present and future generations.

The loss of Kaua'i's beaches is a major social, economic, and environmental problem. Studies by local researchers show that 70% of the beaches on Kaua'i, O'ahu, and Maui are chronically eroding. When beaches erode, backshore infrastructure and resources are threatened, public access is lost, and recreation and cultural activities are limited. This is something that our County is intimately aware of as coastal erosion continues to threaten the multi-purpose Ka Ala Hele Makalae coastal path in several locations along the Wailua-Kapa'a coastline; as well as several shoreline homes across the island that were

constructed prior to our shoreline setback ordinance. We need a softer alternative to shoreline hardening that would avoid the continued degradation of our beaches.

The Parks and Public Works Department currently benefit from the SSBN program presently managed by the DLNR. For example, in 2015 our agency was authorized to place up to 3,000 cubic yards of sand as needed at Kapa`a Beach Park over the duration of a 10-year permitting window. Since that time, we have conducted nine small nourishments to attend to chronic erosion. This project has been instrumental in both protecting backshore resources and preserving lateral access along the public beach in this area.

As Kauai faces increased erosion along our shoreline, we foresee that this streamlined program, if accepted, will be highly beneficial towards managing erosion concerns at our county beach parks, as well as other public infrastructure concerns.

We strongly urge you to accept the Conservation District Use Application for the Programmatic Statewide Small Scale Beach Restoration (SSBR) Program.

Ka`aina Hull

Ka`aina Hull
Director of Planning


[Wallace Rezentes \(Jul 6, 2021 09:57 HST\)](#)

Wallace Rezentes Jr.
Deputy Director of Parks & Recreation

Troy Tanigawa
[Troy Tanigawa \(Jul 6, 2021 15:20 HST\)](#)

Troy Tanigawa
Acting County Engineer












Testimony SSBR

Final Audit Report

2021-07-07

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