

From: [Rick Gaffney](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Food truck permits
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2022 12:53:47 PM

OPPOSITION to the Request for Approval to Solicit and Award Mobile Food Truck Concession Contracts

I would like to testify against the proposal to solicit and award food truck concession contracts at various State park until the requirements for those concessions can be more fully developed so that they minimize their impact on taxpayers and the public.

As a regular at the Maniniowali Beach (Kua Bay) in the Kekaha Kai State Park in North Kona, I witnessed the trial concession there and observed the following:

- 1) A significant increase in the volume of litter on the beach, in the ocean, in the parking area, and the amount of trash in the receptacles managed for the public use by DLNR employees. Awarding the proposed food truck concession will increase the workload for DLNR staff and that cost should be borne by the concessionaire, not the taxpayer. Moreover the concessionaire should contractually be required to minimize the volume of packaging disposed of on site, and maximize the compostability of all products utilized in their food service;
- 2) A significant change in visitor use patterns, with more cars staying longer in the parking area, limiting others from accessing the beach. The parking area at Maniniowali is substantially too small for the current visitor traffic. By providing food on-site, visitors are less likely to leave to eat, tying up the parking area and expanding the practice of parking on the undeveloped areas adjacent to the roadway. This has caused extensive damage to the paving edges, resulted in deep gouges adjacent to the roadway and regular damage to cars attempting to park in these damaged areas. Availability of food at the park will also increase traffic by those simply looking for a meal, further tying up the parking area and adjacent roadways;
- 3) The trial concession at Maniniowali allowed the food truck to park immediately adjacent to the pathway to the beach, significantly disrupting the flow of foot traffic in the area and degrading the serenity of the walk to the beach. If food trucks are to be allowed to return they should be placed in a less visible, lower traffic area to relieve the congestion they cause;
- 4) The easy availability of food and drink adds to the sewage loading at the park, and the restrooms and facilities were not designed for this increase in volume. The concessionaire should contribute to the increased cost of sewage pumping and waste removal as a significant contributor to this increase in volume;

If the food truck concession contract includes provisions that minimize the substantial impact of these concessionaires on the DLNR staff, park users and facilities, they could be allowed, but without provisions to assure the concessionaires are contributing to the costs of managing their impact, and the unintended consequences of their presence, they should not be allowed.

Please take a precautionary approach and prevent the environmental degradation that could result from poorly conceived concession contracts that don't put the burden of their

environmental impacts on your concessionaires.

Mahalo,

[Rick Gaffney](#)

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From: [Cory Harden](#)
To: [Ferreira, Darlene S](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] E 2 Aug 12
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2022 2:25:22 PM

Aloha board members, please do not allow food trucks to disturb our peaceful parks. If DLNR needs money, charge the military and observatories fair market rent, and charge tourists a “green fee”. Mahalo.
Cory Harden, Hilo

Sent from my iPhone



Testimony Before the Board of Land and Natural Resources
August 12, 2022
9:00 A.M.

RE: OPPOSITION TO MOBILE FOOD TRUCK CONCESSIONS AT VARIOUS STATE PARKS

Dear Chair Case and Distinguished Members of the Committee:

The Kaua'i Chamber opposes the establishment of mobile food truck concessions at Waimea Canyon State Park, Koke'e State Park, Wailua River State Park, Opaeka'a Falls, and Ha'ena State Park.

Current infrastructure is not capable of meeting the burdens that such mobile food concessions would create on many of our islands most beloved locations.

1. Look at this recent Facebook post regarding traffic congestion and parking at Ha'ena State Park as an example. Adding food concessions would only compound these challenges and create an even less enjoyable experience for visitors by increasing traffic and clogging parking spaces.
2. The road in Koke'e State Park is dangerously under repaired. Potholes frequently cause tire and rim damage to vehicles. Stranded tourists have no access to cell phone coverage and are often at a loss to find a tow truck company willing to make the trek up to the park. Enticing more visitors to this location does not make sense until needed repairs are complete.
3. Across most all state parks on Kaua'i visitors are parking in undesignated parking spots along street sides, clogging roadways and making driving dangerous.
4. Our public bathrooms are filthy and trash receptacles are almost always overflowing. Mobile food concessions will only worsen this blight on our island.

Please focus on the many issues plaguing our State Parks before adding luxury amenities that will only make the challenges we face worse.

Thank you for considering the position of the Kaua'i Chamber.

Sincerely,


Mark Perriello
President & CEO

