

May 23, 2024

State of Hawai'i
Board of Land and Natural Resources
1151 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Ten-Year Concession Contract at the Kailua-Kona Pier on Hawai'i Island

Dear Chair Chang and the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR),

Founded in 1968, the Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce works to enhance the quality of life for our community through a robust and sustainable economy on Hawai'i Island. With 470 member businesses and organizations, our mission is to provide leadership and advocacy for a successful business environment in West Hawai'i.

We strongly support the visitor industry and recognize that tourism in West Hawai'i contributes significantly to our local economy. This industry impacts small business opportunities and promotes local entrepreneurship.

We support item J-1 on the BLNR meeting agenda, which creates a ten-year concession contract for maritime-related activities at the Kailua-Kona Pier on Hawai'i Island. The contract awardee will provide general information, assistance, maps, restaurant guides, charter and tour information, cruise ship itineraries, trolley and bus schedules, beach rental gear, and other services. These deliverables are designed to aid visitors and elevate their experience.

Furthermore, the Kona-Kohala Chamber encourages streamlining government regulation to provide predictability for businesses. We believe a ten-year commitment offers certainty to the company receiving the contract.

We ask the Board of Land and Natural Resources to support this effort.

Sincerely,



Wendy J. Laros, President and CEO
Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce

From: [Ross Wilson Jr.](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Cc: [LANIHAU-rsmith](#); [KONA-KOHALA-Wendy](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Supportive Testimony Item J-1
Date: Thursday, May 23, 2024 6:58:08 AM

Aloha!

Excuse me brevity but I just noticed the BLNR agenda and I am on an airplane this morning.

I am writing in support of item J-1 on the agenda.

With the increasing numbers of cruise ship passengers arriving at Kailua Pier each year, the dissemination of information and services are important.

Mahalo,
Ross Wilson Jr
Executive Director
Kailua Village Business Improvement District

808-937-3678

Sent from my iPhone