

From: [Angela Atkins](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Ala Wai Marina
Date: Wednesday, October 9, 2024 8:38:48 AM

Aloha,

I am writing to submit a testimony:

I strongly support the Board of Land and Natural Resources granting Blue Water Shrimp a permit extension for the use of the remaining old haul out lot in the Ala Wai. Blue Water Shrimp supports AccesSurf in having a container in the lot for equipment storage and a place to park our vehicle, while allowing the remainder of the lot for public parking. We are a local non-profit that is committed to helping people with disabilities access the ocean. It is with partnerships such as these that enable us to continue our mission to serve our community. We are grateful that Blue Water Shrimp plans to pave the lot, greatly enhancing accessibility, which is desperately needed. Having our equipment situated close to the beach will enable us to serve more individuals throughout the year and enhance our programs. Thank you for your consideration.

If myself/someone from our team was interested in providing an in-person testimonial, could you send me more information about that?

Mahalo,
Angie

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Angie Atkins
AccesSurf Operations Director
808.236.4200
accessurf.org

AccesSurf is committed to providing quality, life changing programs to those with disabilities at no cost to them. We need your help in continuing this mission. By becoming a [Sustaining Member](#) you help ensure our participants will be riding waves of joy well into the future. For as little as \$10 a month - about the cost of two cups of coffee - you can make a tremendous difference in someone's life. [Click here](#) to help us continue to create an Ocean of Possibilities!





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WEST O'AHU

Aloha mai DLNR:

October 7, 2024

This letter is to support the kama'āina location and people we have come to know, appreciate and love – Pau Hana Place. We are writing this with profound appreciation for the spirit and quality of collaboration that Gilbert and his staff hold for the Spirit that is Hawai'i.

Especially with the amount of trauma, litter, and pollution everywhere around their location, working and sharing food within Pau Hana Place seemed like a miracle. Please take a look around their location. It is truly a kaumaha dumping ground for boats, tourists and our homeless population. Having Pau Hana Place at that location allowed us to host hundreds of youths, adults and people from 'āina moana. It was a mythic 10 days during FestPAC that allowed our local people from Laie, Waianae, Nanakuli, Makaha, Kapolei, Kalihi and all points in-between come into Waikiki – often for the first time in many, many years. It was all done because of the willingness and aloha of Pau Hana Place.



Paeloko 'ohana from Maui came!



Fa'a Samoa experience with Dr. Fa'i Lowe



Learning about 'āina moana

Ten days. Ten full days they allowed us to be there, to make house, and to learn everything we could about coconuts: weaving, mo'olelo, wainiu, husking, rope, food, sweats, milk. The rest is history. Please know that Pau Hana Place can make a difference in our community if given the chance.

Me ka 'oia i'o,

Manulani

Dr. Manu Aluli Meyer
Konohiki – Kūlana o Kapolei
UH West Oahu
manulani@hawaii.edu

Pau Hana Place

A vital resource for our local community afraid to come into Waikiki

All photos are during FestPAC when Pau Hana Place allowed us to work with hundreds of local and Pacific Island peoples on all issues related to the niu/coconut. It was a life-changing event for all of us!



300+ launiu used to teach weaving



WAO – We Are Oceania participated



200+ niu for husking, wainiu, etc.



Dr. Vilsoni Hereniko weaving



Making niu rope (kaula)



Professor Roland Bourdeix



Aunty from Kahana Valley



Dr. Tevita Sa'ili from BYUH teaching niu mo'olelo



Indrajit Gunasekara, Kaulunani Urban Forestry Program

From: [wesley yoneda](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] J-1 A and B : Ala Wai Harbor
Date: Thursday, October 10, 2024 7:20:49 AM

J-1 A and B : Ala Wai Harbor: we need public bathrooms to be open

Dear BLNR members:

I am a regular harbor and beach user at Ala Wai small boat harbor. We a community of surfers that meet at the harbor to enjoy and relax after work. The bathrooms close Monday through Thursday at 4:00 pm, which is too early.

We need more harbor bathrooms open and till later, till at least 7:00 pm. The Pau Hana Place has let us their bathrooms from time to time. We prefer to use the bathrooms near thd surf site but there is no where else to go.

Currently, the harbor bathroom near Bowls surf site is only open till 4:00 pm Monday through Thursday.

We really need three bathrooms open until the parking lot end time of 10:30 pm. Maybe DOCARE or Hilton security could lock the bathroom door at 10:00 pm

Only one bathroom of three houses are ever open to the public. Why are the other two bathrooms houses on the harbor permanently closed?

Thank you Board Members for looking into public access to bathrooms at the Ala Wai Boat Harbor.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Carlo](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item J-1
Date: Thursday, October 10, 2024 4:05:10 AM

Aloha Board,

This is testimony regarding 10/11/24, agenda item J-1.

While working at DOBOR property management, Richard Howard was my supervisor. He said he didn't like Gilbert Sakaguchi Sr. and did not want him to win the Lagoon concession contract. This was due to something that happened before Richard worked for the state. He extended the bid deadline an extra day so that another applicant could submit their application. Me and another property manager Kim ranked Blue Water Shrimp the highest. He didn't like the outcome and asked us to change our ranking. We both refused as we thought was unethical. I should have mentioned it to Meghan at the time, but was concerned about retaliation from Richard. Richard's penchant for harassment and hostility at DOBOR are well documented. As with other acts I witnessed (like swearing & yelling at other staff) I should have said something sooner.

Richard's accusations of non-compliance indicate a personal bias as the allegations are without merit. A Notice of Violation (NOV) cites 24/7 security as requiring a licensed guard. The revocable permit (RP) doesn't specify "licensed guard." Blue Water Shrimp Int'l (BWSI) has security cameras and staff that work through the night that report disturbances to HPD. As mentioned by the board, their mere presence acts as a deterrent. I'm curious if Richard's plan will include security cameras or licensed guards. Richard's allegation is not about the adequacy of security, because residents have commented about how much safer the area is. Richard's allegation is an attempt to find a technicality to kick Sakaguchi out.

Richard also cites encroachment of an 8x8 (64 sf) between the restroom trailer and food truck. BWSI responded that this area is used for access and maintenance. There is also no clear boundary as the restroom trailer and access areas aren't clearly defined in a disposition. Richard's follow up letter said an RP isn't necessary for the restroom trailer as it provides a public service. Richard instructed us that all uses of state land require a disposition. Therefore, he just hasn't done the required work yet. As a side note, at the 9/13/24, meeting, item D-8, Resorttrust Hawaii (RTH) was given a gratis RP for a 64 sf area for providing public services of cleaning the beach. Just so happens that BWSI restroom trailer provides a public service next to a 64 sf area they use on occasion for access and maintenance. Richard has chosen to punish BWSI rather than work with them like Land Division worked with RTH. He hasn't even offered to do an RP for this area for rent, which would be in the state's interest. Instead he wants to kick them out for an alleged encroachment that amounts to less than .5% of the RP area. The hot dog vendor, near the lagoon, encroaches about 100% more than their RP area. Koolaupoko, at Heiea-Kea pier, have a tent and benches that encroach onto state land. There are many examples across the state of minor encroachment that he has dismissed. The selective enforcement is another example of bias against Sakaguchi.

The NOV also cited environmental contamination due to grease spilling on to the soil. DOH's report disagreed. The video clearly shows that staff exaggerates their findings. Note that staff did not require a cure, nor did they attempt to educate BWSI regarding "Best Management Practices" (BMP) for grease disposal. Staff immediately recommended disbaring BWSI for 5

yrs as punishment, even before DOH rendered an opinion. BWSI had used an unapproved method of grease removal and showed receipts for grease removal. This method was not approved by DOH, but was not malicious and was cured to DOH satisfaction. Richard's follow up response was that the DOH Satisfactory report wasn't from the branch he wanted. BWSI security recorded another DOH inspector stopping by, who did not leave a card. He looked at the cured area and did not even file a report. BWSI attempted to identify the agent, but wasn't able to get their identity. A few days later Richard showed up with a DOBOR engineer who required drawings stamped by a licensed engineer for a sewer hook up, due in just 2 business days. This was required by Richard even though DOH already approved the grease removal configuration. BWSI provided a preliminary drawing over the weekend. In a follow up letter, Richard stated that BWSI ignores DOBOR's requests and makes no attempt to comply, which has never been the case. Richard went on to accuse BWSI of citing staff's inspection deficiencies as a means to distract from the potential harm to the environment. Again, the NOV did not require a cure, nor did they make any attempt to educate BWSI regard proper BMP's to ward off the potential future events. Therefore, Richard was not concerned about the environment, but was looking for a justification to cancel the RP. Yet another example of animus towards Sakaguchi.

The follow up letter states numerous unspecified complaints and alleged making almost no attempt to resolve the issues. At the June meeting he gave credit to BWSI responding and making adjustments. Again, there's an attempt to paint BWSI as not acting in good faith when clearly they have been. Another example of bias.

By now it should be evident that Richard lacks credibility. He told the board he had a plan that would keep the area occupied, but he did not have a back up tenent, and the plan was still in the talking stages. He said DOBOR could self-fund development, but didn't have price quotes yet, because they were still in the talking stages. Kaiwi Yoon questioned DOBOR's ability to self fund and gave a rough estimate of \$8-16 million. Richard said his plan was from the UH Vision Report. However, he apparently didn't read it well as it provides an estimate of \$14 million for this area, which is consistent member Yoon's estimate. Richard's desire to kick Sakaguchi out appears to have resulted in pure fabrications to achieve that end.

A review of the 6/28/24 and 8/23/24 meetings again reveal deficiencies in Richard's credibility.

The proposed rents required revisiting twice. He tried to raise BWSI rents 30 days sooner than required even though it was clearly stated in the minutes. He discredited BWSI as not repairing a sink saying DOBOR did it. I checked with the Ala Wai district managed and head of facilities and they said they did not fix it.

How much faith do you have in Richard Howard executing a plan? A quick review of past annual RP renewals will reveal that they are all done at the last meeting of each fiscal year, because he waits till the last minute to get it done, which put a lot of stress on all property management staff, admin staff and tenants.

Richard was well known for sleeping at his desk and staring at something glowing in his lap. These are staff related issues, and not the board's business. However, they are related to the potential future outcomes of the decisions the board makes.

As stated earlier Richard has animus towards Gilbert Sakaguchi and I believe has been using

his position to harass BWSI and potentially do them harm.

After visiting Pau Hana Place and seeing Kapuna and Keiki spontaneously do the hula. Seeing the joy on their faces, reminded me of when I was young and I fell in love with the place. A deep sadness came over me. Peter Apo said now you're a true Hawaiian. I said, but I don't have Hawaiian blood. He said, being Hawaiian is more than blood, it's about being part of their lived experience.

Please don't take another wonderful thing from Hawaiians. I humbly and respectfully ask that you renew BWSI's RP for another 12 months; that you grant them an immediate non-exclusive Right-of-Entry for the remainder of the lot at gratis rent for free public parking; followed by an RP, that would allow them to pave the lot and have financial protection for that investment; issue an ROI and subsequent RP to maintain the debris boom; and reduce their rent to 5% so that they can continue to provide services that benefit the community.

Mahalo,
Carl Young