

From: [Sam Young](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Agenda Item J-1 – May 23, 2025 BLNR Meeting
Date: Monday, May 19, 2025 10:45:55 PM
Attachments: [vv_esig_ALT_sm.png](#)

Voltage Vessels – Written Testimony (Agenda Item J-1)

To: Chairperson Dawn Chang and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources
From: Sam Young, CEO – Voltage Vessels LLC
Subject: Testimony for Agenda Item J-1 – Revocable Permit Renewals and Harbor Planning Alignment

Aloha e Nā Luna a me ke Kōmike,

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony on behalf of Voltage Vessels regarding Agenda Item J-1, specifically concerning the renewal of revocable permits and the forward planning implications for Maalaea and Lahaina harbors.

We are a Maui-based clean marine technology company developing zero-emission vessel platforms using additive manufacturing and bio-composite materials. We've partnered with the Research Institutes, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, and multiple cultural and conservation groups to build the nation's first regenerative maritime manufacturing ecosystem.

We strongly support the renewal of existing revocable permits but also urge the Board to consider the urgent opportunity to:

1. Prioritize Lahaina Harbor's long-term revitalization through a cultural and climate-aligned lens. Voltage Vessels is prepared to support this rebuild with reef-safe, electric-capable infrastructure and community-rooted design collaboration.
2. Advance the long-term disposition process at Maalaea, where the drydock and Buzz's Wharf area offer strategic co-location for micro-manufacturing, vessel repair, and canoe-building aligned with Hui o Wa'a and local ocean stewardship.
3. Incorporate regenerative marine manufacturing into harbor planning, including reef-safe mooring solutions, acoustic monitoring pods for whales, and closed-loop shoreline infrastructure—all of which can be produced locally via our Maui-based Hana Hale 3d large format print hub, launching design and engineering in Q3 2025.

We respectfully request that the Board and DOBOR consider us a future-use stakeholder in any upcoming Request for Proposals or public lease auctions involving Lahaina, Maalaea, Kaunakakai, Manele, (Maui County) harbor properties. We are prepared to co-develop with community partners and stand ready to align our resources with DLNR's mission for resilient, inclusive, and climate-forward ocean access.

With deep respect for our place and shared kuleana,

Sam



Sam Young
Founder - Chief Executive Officer
- Mahalo Ke Akua -
"As Is Above So Is Below"

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From: [Brenda Watson](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In support of Kāneʻohe Cultural Foundation and Canoe Club
Date: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 3:29:09 PM

Aloha Chairperson and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Brenda Watson and I am writing in strong support of the Kaneohe Cultural Foundation's request for the renewal of their revocable permit at He'eia Kea Pier.

For over 50 years, this organization has served as a cultural cornerstone in the Kāneʻohe community. Through perpetuation of traditional Hawaiian practices such as outrigger canoe paddling, ocean safety, and community engagement, the Kāneʻohe Canoe Club and the Kāneʻohe Cultural Foundation have empowered generations of youth and adults to remain connected to the land, ocean, and culture of our home.

Their presence at He'eia Kea Pier is not only practical—it is deeply symbolic. It provides a place where education, cultural preservation, and community building intersect. From keiki learning their first paddle strokes to kupuna sharing stories of the past, this is a living cultural space that enriches Kāneʻohe and the broader Windward side.

We respectfully urge the BLNR to vote in favor of renewing the revocable permit this year, and to consider a long-term vision that ensures these vital programs continue for many years to come. Their work aligns with the mission of stewarding public lands for the benefit of Hawai'i's people and perpetuating Native Hawaiian cultural practices.

Mahalo for your time, dedication, and consideration of this important matter.

With deep respect,
Brenda Watson

Sent from my iPhone