



The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation

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June 10, 2026

Board of Land and Natural Resources
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources

Re: Support for the State Acquisition of the Maunawili Lands

Aloha Chair and Members of the Board,

The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation strongly supports the proposed acquisition of approximately 912 acres of land in Maunawili by the State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) .

As the current owner of these properties, the Foundation believes the permanent protection and stewardship of these lands by the State is a promising long-term outcome for the community. The acreage contains significant natural, cultural, and watershed resources that will be preserved and managed for public benefit under DOFAW's ownership.

This transaction reflects the Foundation's commitment to local stewardship and our mission to create strong, vibrant communities. We are proud to partner with DOFAW, Trust for Public Land, and others to help advance a conservation effort that will protect these lands for future generations.

We respectfully urge the Board to approve the proposed acquisition.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kirk Horiuchi

Senior Director of Asset Management, Hawaii Real Estate
The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation



Kailua

HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUB

P.O. Box 1123, Kailua, Hawai'i 96734

**Meeting of the Board of Land and Natural Resources
Friday, June 12, 2026
9:00 a.m.**

**Testimony in Support of
Agenda Item C(1)**

- Request preliminary approval of the acquisition of private lands at Maunawili, identified as Tax Map Key Nos (1) 4-2-006:010, (1) 4-2-008:044, (1) 4-2-009:002, and (1) 4-2-008:043; and
- Declare that the land acquisition is exempt from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment under Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and Chapter 11-200.1, Hawaii Administrative Rules.

Acting Chair Kanaka'ole and members of the Board:

My name is Kalani L. Ka'anā'anā. I am the Pelekikena (President) of the Board of Directors of the Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club (KHCC). Established in 1958, KHCC strives to enrich the lives of our 'ōiwi and 'ohana; advance the appreciation, study, and practice of our culture; and mālama our lands, waters, iwi kūpuna, and wahi pana.

Today, on behalf of the KHCC, I submit testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of Agenda Item C(1). Over the years, the KHCC has been supportive of and involved in the Hui Maunawili-Kawainui's efforts to ensure the protection and preservation of Maunawili's 'āina, waters, and natural and cultural resources. We stand with the Hui in supporting Agenda Item C(1).

As you know, Maunawili valley contains wetlands, streams and freshwater springs that provide water that flows to the Kawainui Marsh ecosystem, and this includes Maunawili Stream, the most significant stream in the ahupua'a of Kailua. There are also ancient and historic sites throughout Maunawili valley including heiau, sacred stones, petroglyphs, large 'auwai related to extensive lo'i, and nineteenth and early twentieth century structures related to agriculture and food production. Thus, for us, Maunawili is vital to the culture, history, and well-being of the Kailua and larger Ko'olaupoko community.

Pelekikena: Kalani Ka'anā'anā

Hope Pelekikena: Kū'ehu Seto-Myers

Hope Pelekikena 'Elua: Kihei de Silva

Pu'ukū: 'Ilima Ka'anehe

Kākau 'Ōlelo: Ke'ala Morrell

Nā Alaka'i: Nola Faria, Puakenamu Leong,

Ka'olu Luning, Kapilialoha MacKenzie, Kawaihana Saffery, Tyler Gomes, Māpuana de Silva

Pelekikena Iho Nei: Kapalai'ula de Silva

The KHCC realizes that there are still many steps to be taken, even if Agenda Item C(1) is approved, to ensure that Maunawili's cultural and natural resources are fully protected. We also know, however, that this is an important and necessary step. Thus, we urge the Board to approve Agenda Item C(1).

Mahalo for the opportunity to present this testimony in strong support of Agenda Item C(1).

Me ka 'oia'i'o,



Kalani L. Ka'anā'anā
Pelekikena

Pelekikena: Māpuana de Silva
Hope Pelekikena 'Ekahi: Kapalai'ula de Silva
Hope Pelekikena 'Elua: Kīhei deSilva
Pu'ukū: Kehau Meyer
Kākau 'Ōlelo: Rhonda Roldan
Nā Alaka'i: Nancy Cullen, Sharman Ellison, Charlani Kalama, Makanani Akiona, Maya Saffery
Pelekikena Mamua A'e: Pohai Ryan

June 11, 2026

Chairperson and Land Board Members
Board of Land & Natural Resources
Department of Land & Natural Resources
State of Hawai'i

IN SUPPORT OF DOFAW'S REQUEST FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF THE ACQUISITION OF PRIVATE LANDS AT MAUNAWILI, KO'OLAUPOKO DISTRICT, ISLAND OF O'AHU, IDENTIFIED AS TAX MAP KEY NOS. (1) 4-2-006:010, (1) 4-2-008:044, (1) 4-2-009:002, AND (1) 4-2-008:043; and

IN SUPPORT OF DECLARATION THAT THE USE OF STATE FUNDS FOR THE LAND ACQUISITION APPROVED UNDER ITEM 1 IS EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENT TO PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT UNDER CHAPTER 343, HAWAII' I REVISED STATUTES, AND CHAPTER 11-200.1, HAWAII' I ADMINISTRATIVE RULES.

We write in strong support of the State of Hawai'i Department of Land & Natural Resources (DLNR), Division of Forestry & Wildlife (DOFAW), The Trust for Public Land, and the Maunawili community's efforts to purchase and protect the above-mentioned Maunawili Forest property in Maunawili, O'ahu, Hawai'i.

Our family has lived in Kailua for 100 years and in Maunawili, adjacent to the lands in consideration, for 75 years and five generations. Most of our family continues to live in Maunawili today. The eldest among us grew up in this valley when it was still predominantly forest and agricultural lands, planted in kalo and rice, populated mostly by small farmers and a few ranches. We were taught by our elders to love, respect and care for its forests, streams, wildlife and fauna and ancient cultural sites.

Through our history and presence in Maunawili we know it to be a place of native forest, more than 50 streams and springs that comprise the watershed for all of Kailua, a refuge for native and endangered species of birds, bats, insects and plants and the most fertile agricultural land in the entire ahupua'a (land division) of Kailua. We also know these lands to include a network of ancient and important cultural sites including heiau, house sites, stone-faced lo'i kalo terraces and many other historic features showing the ancient Hawaiian use of the valley. Many of these have not been fully surveyed or investigated and there is great potential for further research, education and cultural restoration.

For more than a decade we have worked with Hui Maunawili-Kawainui, a coalition of descendants and residents of Maunawili and Kailua and respected Hawaiian cultural and environmental organizations. With the Hui we support the purchase, preservation and restoration of conservation and agricultural lands in Maunawili and the protection and preservation of our wetlands, fresh water resources, ancient cultural and historic sites and historic trails and roads. We share their vision to restore the health of Maunawili so the valley can resume its vital and traditional role in the Kailua ahupua'a as a place of freeflowing

fresh water, forests, abundant agriculture and rich natural, cultural and historic resources.

We are grateful to The Trust for Public Land for taking the leadership in orchestrating this important acquisition. We stand in full support of DOFAW's mission "to protect, manage and restore natural and cultural resources with the people of Hawai'i. We envision a future with thriving native ecosystems and opportunities for the people of Hawai'i to engage with nature." Acquisition of these highly significant lands will be an important asset to fulfilling DOFAW's mission with enormous benefits to the community.

Protecting these lands would fulfill our ancestors and our community's long standing goal of protecting Maunawili's mountains, forests, streams, and sacred places which are so central to the community's health and well-being, sense of place and cultural identity. We look forward to collaborating in the stewardship of these lands in close partnership with TPL and DOFAW.

Mahalo for your consideration.

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