

From: [Jan Allen](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Popoki Place Oahu Cat Sanctuary
Date: Thursday, April 10, 2025 11:20:29 PM

Please allow Popoki Place to secure the 20 acres of available, unused land on the North Shore to set up a cat sanctuary. We desperately need this for Oahu!

Mahalo,
Jan Allen

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Andy Armitage](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony in Support of Pōpoki Place O‘ahu Cat Sanctuary’s Right of Entry Application
Date: Friday, April 11, 2025 12:03:58 AM

Dear Chair Chang and Board Members,

My name is Andrea J. Armitage, and I am writing in strong support of Pōpoki Place O‘ahu Cat Sanctuary’s application for a Right Of Entry on the 20 acres of unused land on the North Shore of O‘ahu.

As an O‘ahu resident and supporter of responsible animal care, I believe Pōpoki Place’s vision offers a humane and effective solution to managing free-roaming cat populations—particularly those removed from sensitive wildlife habitats. Their work will also provide much-needed relief to overwhelmed rescue groups and create a centralized resource for long-term, sustainable care.

Approving this measure would be a meaningful step toward supporting both local wildlife and our community’s animal welfare efforts. I urge the Board to vote in favor of granting the Right Of Entry and help make this sanctuary a reality.

Pōpoki Place is a win-win for our protected birds and monk seals and for O‘ahu’s free-roaming cat population, and the advocates for both.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Andrea J. Armitage
andy.armitage11@gmail.com
(808) 286-4013
O‘ahu Resident
Volunteer for Lucky Paws Animal Foundation

MADLINE COCHRANE CALLAHAN
87 KAPIHA'A PLACE- TERRACES AT MANELE
LANA'I, HAWAI'I 96763

8 APRIL 2025

PATTI E. MIYASHIRO, LAND AGENT
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
LAND DIVISION

HONORABLE GREETINGS.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR RECEIVING OUR WRITTEN TESTIMONIES ON BEHALF OF THIS EXCITING OPPORTUNITY ON OAHU TO ACHIEVE SOMETHING THAT LITERALLY BENEFITS ALL- THE COMMUNITY OF PEOPLE AND ANIMALS OF THE BEAUTIFUL ISLAND OF OAHU!

I HAVE BEEN A PART OF THE HUGELY SUCCESSFUL LANA'I CAT SANCTUARY SINCE THE (UNINTENDED, AT FIRST !) INCEPTION. KATHY CARROLL, OUR DEVOTED FOUNDER, INITIALLY RECRUITED 3 LIKEMINDED FRIENDS TO HELP HER TRAP & CARE FOR AS MANY OF THE FREE ROAMING CATS HERE, ON LANA'I, AS WE COULD. IT WAS AS INNOCENT AS THAT. TO HELP THE CATS, THEREBY, HELPING OUR WONDERFUL SMALL COMMUNITY. WE NEVER DREAMED HOW MANY CATS THERE ACTUALLY WERE. WE WERE GRANTED USE OF ONE THE STALLS AT KOELE STABLES. WE ENDED UP WITH A FENCED IN PARCEL RECEIVING AREA AT CASTLE & COOK ADMINISTRATION THROUGH THE CHARITABLE LEADERSHIP. BEFORE WE KNEW IT, IT WAS BECOMING AN EVERGROWING AND EXPANDING ENDEAVOR THAT REQUIRED MORE AND MORE RESOURCES, VOLUNTEERS AND SPACE. WE HAD SOMEHOW OUTGROWN OURSELVES, EVERYTHING EXCEPT OUR RESOLVE!! ALONG THE WAY WE HAD EDUCATED OURSELVES ON WHAT IT WOULD TAKE TO BECOME A TRUE CAT SANCTUARY. WE LEARNED ALL ABOUT THE NATIVE BIRD POPULATION AND WANTED TO HELP, EVEN MORE. KATHY, IN HER AMAZING ENTHUSIASTIC WAY, CONVINCED DAVID MURDOCH TO DONATE A PIECE OF PROPERTY TO FULFILL THE DREAM WE CREATED. ONCE HE OBSERVED WHAT WE HAD CREATED WITH BASICALLY NOTHING BUT OUR OWN LABOR AND DONATIONS OF MONEY AND TIME FROM ANYONE WE COULD PURSUADE !! NONE OF US COULD PERCEIVE THE REWARDS OF HIS GENEROSITY AND BENEVOLENCE. IN HINDSIGHT, WE WILL ALWAYS MARVEL THOSE SERENDIPITIOUS TIMES. BUT, NOT EVERYONE HAS A BENEFACOR THAT OWNS 98% OF AN ISLAND, HOW GRATEFUL WE ARE. EVERY SINGLE DAY. WITH EVERY SINGLE CAT AND BIRD WE SAVE AND GIVE A GOOD LIFE TO. WITH EVERY SMILE ON EVERY VISITOR'S FACE. WE ARE IN AWE.

I MET HOLLY AND TOM HOLOWACH OVER SIX YEARS AGO, HERE ON LANA'I. THEY HEARD ABOUT OUR WORK AND WANTED TO VISIT. IT WAS COINCIDING WITH OUR 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY IN OUR CURRENT LOCATION. WE IMMEDIATELY HIT IT OFF. THEY WERE ENCHANTED AND INSPIRED AND WANTED TO RECREATE ONE ON OAHU!! WE WERE ALL FOR IT!

HERE'S THE DIFFERENCE- WE HAD THE ABILITY TO TAKE YEARS TO DEVELOP. NOW, IT'S OUR TURN TO BE IN AWE OF HOLLY AND TOM!! THEY'VE ACTUALLY ACCOMPLISHED THE LION'S SHARE OF THE ARDUOUS, ENDLESS PAPERWORK, PERMITTING, GRANTS, ETC. THEY'VE EDUCATED THEMSELVES THE WAY WE DID BUT IN SO MUCH LESS TIME. THEY'VE MENTORED WITH ALL OF US IN THE FIELD. I CAN TELL YOU THEIR HEARTS AND HARD WORK ARE IN THE BEST PLACE!! ALL THEIR DUE DILIGENCE CAN ONLY TAKE PLACE IF THEY CAN LEGALLY SECURE A SUFFICIENT TRACK OF LAND TO GROW THIS WELL OILED NONPROFIT INTO OAHU'S SHINING EXAMPLE OF WHAT CAN BE DONE WHEN A GROUP OF LIKE-MINDED , DEDICATED PEOPLE SET THEIR MINDS, HEARTS AND LABOR TO IT!!

HAVING BEEN ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE LANA'I CAT SANCTUARY SINCE OUR VERY FIRST FORMATION, I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT GRANTING THIS LAND TO THIS HIGHLY BENEFICIAL USE WILL REAP UNTOLD REWARDS, SUCH AS WE ENCOUNTER EVERY SINGLE DAY. IT'S BEEN MY HONOR AND MY PLEASURE TO SPEND MY LAST 20 YEARS DEVELOPING THIS. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE HELP HOLLY AND TOM CREATE THIS EXCITING WIN-WIN FOR OAHU AND MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE FOR ALL.

IT IS AN HONOR FOR ME TO SUBMIT ON THEIR BEHALF- I CANNOT WAIT TO SEE IT GROW FROM SEED. IT'S POTENTIAL IS LIMITLESS AND WILL INSPIRE OTHERS THROUGHOUT OUR BEAUTIFUL ISLANDS, AND THE WORLD!

I SINCERELY THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND RESPECT YOUR CONSIDERATION IMMENSELY.

WITH KINDEST ALOH,

MADLINE COCHRANE CALLAHAN

From: [Lee Cuccia](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Popoki Place
Date: Thursday, April 10, 2025 10:41:09 PM

I am writing to convey my strong support for approving Popoki Place' 'right of entry' regarding land on north shore.

Having such a place will enable humane removal of cats from sensitive areas due to native species needing to thrive as well as dangerous areas for the cats themselves.

Mahalo,

Lee Cuccia
Kailua

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Holly](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Cc: markahowland@hawaii.rr.com; [Irobela Wreagh](#); [Leslie Witten](#); [Linde Keil](#); [Malia Wisch](#); [Tom Holowach](#); [Yvonne Ahearn](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony in support of ROE for Popoki Place
Date: Thursday, April 10, 2025 5:16:16 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[PPOCS-Brochure.pdf](#)
[Popoki Place SiteMap-Parcel 53.pdf](#)
Importance: High

Aloha e Honorable Chair Chang & Esteemed Board of Land & Natural Resources members,

We are very grateful for this opportunity to testify in strong support of allowing Pōpoki Place the Right of Entry to Parcel 53.

Pōpoki Place O'ahu Cat Sanctuary is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the mission of creating a large-scale sanctuary for removing free-roaming feral cats from sensitive areas like beaches and parks where they endanger native wildlife and permanently housing them in secure open-air enclosures in a natural environment. Pōpoki Place will be a beautiful and peaceful park-like place where people can relax and enjoy the environment while helping to protect our fragile ecosystem.

As you know, Chair Chang, we have been working on securing land for Pōpoki Place O'ahu Cat Sanctuary for several years. We recently found out that Parcel 53 was now an option. This past Valentine's Day, Marigold Zoll got permission to take us on a hike through the property to see if it is a good possibility to continue to explore. We all agreed that it is an exciting potential for being the ideal spot for Pōpoki Place.

We have been looking for the "unicorn" property – the one that no one uses for anything else. We need agricultural pastureland but understand it cannot be "Important Agricultural Land," so this Ag-2 parcel is excellent. This parcel has been vacant for the past 50 years since it was retired from being a sugar cane field. We think we have found our "unicorn!"

We understand that, according to the DPP, to qualify for Ag-2 land, we will also need to also farm. We plan to grow Medjool dates on the trees already growing there, ti-leaf for laulau and leis, Breadfruit and Hayden Mango trees, cat grass, and catnip in the required one-hundred-foot perimeter around the borders, and in the flood-zone leaving the upper portion of the property for cats. All cats will be secured in escape-proof enclosures and will not be anywhere near these items.

We need the land to be easily accessible but prefer it to be away from neighborhoods. This parcel is ideal in that way. It is on a straight stretch of the main highway. We have met the neighbor who owns the small triangular parcel adjoining the property, and she is excited to have us there. We plan to meet the other neighbors in the area but are pleased that, because of its location, we can remain away from any dwellings.

To help fund the sanctuary, we plan to be open for a few hours in the middle of the day for visitors. Visiting the cats is a quiet activity. We do not intend to allow large tour buses or massive crowds. Since education is a primary focus, we also plan to allow school groups to visit to learn more about how Pōpoki Place helps to protect our

native wildlife and protect our fragile ecosystem. Local veterinary students and volunteers will help us care for the animals. Being near other conservation areas on the North Shore is beneficial to us all.

We intend to build a Plantation-style office with a medical exam room. On the property, several containers and storage units will be for the cat intake center, small clinic, storage, and supplies.

We will bring hard copies of our brochure to hand out to the Board and anyone interested in having one. **The brochure is also attached** to this email for easy reference. **Please visit our website** for more information and to view our vision and plans. **A very preliminary Site Map** to give you an idea of our plans is also attached.

To help understand our plans, people can view this short video of our role model, the successful Lānaʻi Cat Sanctuary: <https://www.cbsnews.com/video/island-hopping-the-lanai-cat-sanctuary/>

To reiterate, Pōpoki Place O'ahu Cat Sanctuary will be a beautiful, peaceful park-like setting where people can relax and enjoy the environment while helping to save the lives of the cats and reduce the threats to native wildlife.

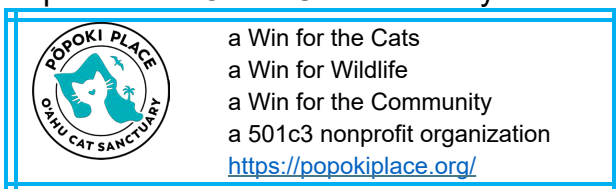
We humbly ask for the Right-of-Entry be granted so we can begin the work needed to apply for use of the property and conduct all the studies needed for the EA. We are very excited to state that Mark Howland from WHALE Environmental Services, who has written several EAs in the area has offered to help us write the EA.

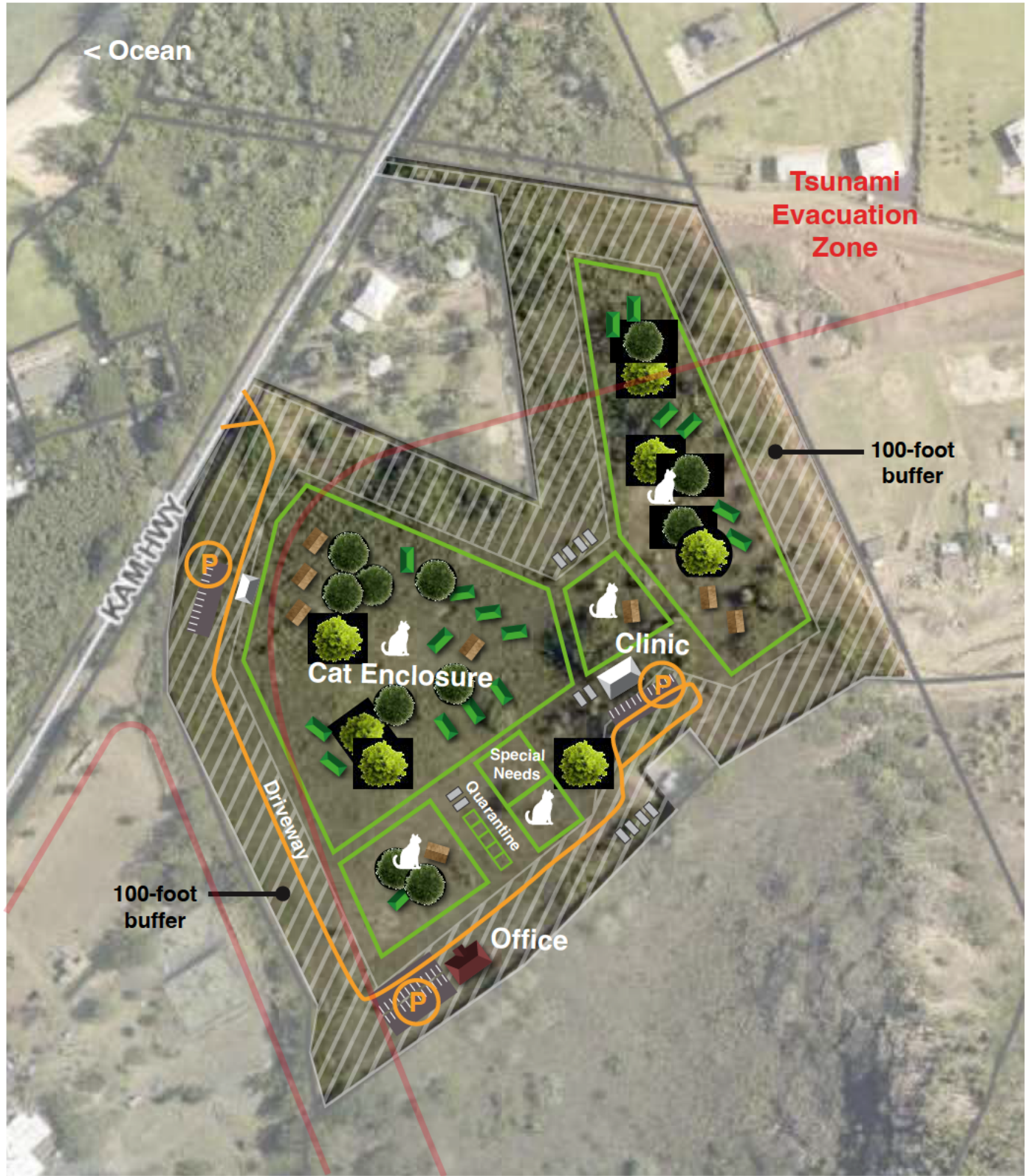
Mahalo nui loa for your consideration and support. We will be at the hearing in person to answer your questions.




On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you. We are grateful to you.

Mahalo,

Holly Holowach
Founder/President
Popoki Place O'ahu Cat Sanctuary





-  Hawaiian Hale: traditional pili grass structure
-  Cat Hale: simple shade structures
-  20' containers for supplies / storage



A compassionate approach
for Oahu's cats and native wildlife

POPOKIPLACE.ORG

Do you love cats?
Do you worry about native wildlife?
Do you think cats are a nuisance?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you support Popoki Place!

Decades of irresponsible actions by humans have led to an overpopulation of cats on O'ahu.

Despite monumental efforts by local shelters, rescues, spay/neuter clinics, and dedicated volunteers, **a large-scale sanctuary is a missing piece of the puzzle, without which the other efforts cannot succeed.**



*We envision a future
where cats on our island
have a safe place
to live their best possible
lives while minimizing the
threat they pose
to native wildlife.*



Strategic, Conservative Intake

We will prioritize the intake of cats that pose the most immediate threat to native wildlife, with the eventual goal of being able to provide a safe haven to any cat on O'ahu without a home. We will start small and scale up.

Education to Stem the Tide

In a fun setting, guests will learn about our fragile ecosystem, how their actions could contribute to cat overpopulation, and how to be a part of a responsible, compassionate solution.

Designed for the Long-Term

We are organized for sustainability, to be able to operate for as long as needed, with a board, a staff, and an organizational mindset.

Help me get off the streets and away from native wildlife.



Fresh Air Enclosures • No Cages

Popoki Place will have multiple large enclosures surrounded by secure fencing in a lush setting. Cats will feel like they are free-roaming but cannot escape the enclosure and will have all of their needs met.

Cat Lovers Tourist Attraction

Cat sanctuaries from Lana'i to Rome are popular destinations. By optimizing the visitor experience, we expect much of our ongoing funding to come from non-resident donors.





A WIN FOR CATS



A WIN FOR NATIVE BIRDS



A WIN FOR MONK SEALS



A WIN FOR THE COMMUNITY



Help us make it a reality!

THE PLAN

Planning & Design

Secure Land.
Capital Campaign for Startup Funding.
Detailed Design.

Clearing & Building

Land clearing / prep.
Acquire supplies.
Purchase fencing
Install enclosure(s).
Set up admin center.

Begin Operations

First 50 cats intake.
Volunteer program.
Partner with veterinarians.
Data Software.

Iterate & Scale Up

Staffing org chart.
Assess and adjust processes for continual improvement.
Scale up!

WHAT WE NEED

Angel Donors

Connections to Land
10+ acres, flat, with utilities and easy access

Skilled Volunteers

Land Planner,
Surveyor, Architect,
Landscape Design,
Accountant, Attorney,
Electrician, Plumber,
etc.

Building Skills and Supplies

Land clearing,
landscaping
building, fencing,
painting, strong
volunteer labor,
plants, trees, sod,
chain link (1"), poles,
concrete, gravel,
reclaimed lumber,
pallets, etc.

Please follow us on social media and sign up for email updates to stay in touch and track our progress!



POPOKIPLACE.ORG



@popokiplace



@popoki_place



holly@popokiplace.org



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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF RIGHT-OF-ENTRY PERMIT
TO POPOKI PLACE OAHU CAT SANCTUARY

April 10, 2025

Dear Board of Land and Natural Resources:

Cat People of Oahu is a nonprofit organization with a clear mission: to help people help cats. Since our founding in 2017, we have been dedicated to addressing the island's free-roaming cat overpopulation crisis through a comprehensive, humane, and community-based approach. Our efforts include promoting spay/neuter programs, fostering and adoption initiatives, and advocating for Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) as a compassionate, science-backed strategy for managing the free-roaming cat population.

Through years of grassroots work, we have witnessed first-hand the urgent need for a multisystemic solution—one that includes physical infrastructure to support the cats who cannot be adopted or returned to their original environments. It is from this perspective that we express our strong support for Popoki Place Oahu Cat Sanctuary and respectfully urge the Board to grant a right-of-entry permit for due diligence purposes.

Within our Facebook community of over 6,500 members—comprising colony caregivers, rescuers, and advocates—we have heard the same plea echoed time and again: our island desperately needs a sanctuary for free-roaming cats. For years, residents have been waiting and hoping for a safe, sustainable solution that protects both the cats and our precious native wildlife.

We believe Popoki Place Oahu Cat Sanctuary represents a long-overdue and essential component in our island's efforts to reduce the free-roaming cat population. The Hawaiian Humane Society and smaller rescues like ours do incredible work, but our impact is limited without a dedicated physical space to house cats who cannot be returned to the wild or adopted into homes.

Popoki Place would fill this critical gap. With adequate space and proper management, the sanctuary can protect large numbers of unadoptable cats while simultaneously reducing their impact on native species. The parcel of land under consideration is a rare and valuable opportunity to create lasting, positive change for both animal welfare and environmental conservation on Oahu.

We are hopeful and excited about the possibility of Popoki Place becoming a reality. Thank you for considering this testimony and for your continued commitment to thoughtful stewardship of Hawaii's land and natural resources.

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alexis E. Jamison". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping flourish at the end.

Alexis E. Jamison
President, Co-Founder

From: [Barbara Krasniewski](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Land for Cat Sanctuary
Date: Thursday, April 10, 2025 10:43:51 PM

I strongly support the measure granting Popoki Place approval for a Right of Entry. The 20 acre parcel will be the solution for humanely removing feral cats from sensitive wildlife habitats while providing space for the free-roaming cats and the rescue groups who care for them. This is a win-win for cats and wildlife. Thank you.

Aloha, Barbara Krasniewski
124 Kuulei Road Kailua 96734
(808)384-2879

My name is Kathryn Ng and I am submitting testimony in favor of Popoki Place cat sanctuary on Oahu . It is badly needed and a win win for all . The Lanai Cat Sanctuary is a huge success and Popoki Place would follow same and be patterned after sanctuary on Lanai . This sanctuary is desperately needed here and I am totally completely in favor of it . Popoki Place has been in minds and hearts for quite some time . Please let's get it done !

Thank You for hearing this , my testimony , in favor of Popoki Place Cat Sanctuary !

Sincerely , Kathryn Ng

From: [REDACTED]
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony in Support of Pōpoki Place O'ahu Cat Sanctuary's Right Of Entry Application
Date: Thursday, April 10, 2025 11:51:15 PM

Dear Chair Chang and Board Members,

My name is Eliyah Ominsky, and I am writing in strong support of Pōpoki Place O'ahu Cat Sanctuary's application for a Right Of Entry on the 20 acres of unused land on the North Shore of O'ahu.

As an O'ahu resident and dedicated animal welfare advocate, I have seen firsthand the challenges surrounding free-roaming cat populations and the strain placed on local rescue groups. Pōpoki Place's plan to provide refuge for cats removed from sensitive wildlife areas—while supporting overburdened rescues—is not only compassionate but essential for balancing animal welfare and environmental stewardship.

This sanctuary would represent a long-overdue solution rooted in community collaboration, humane care, and responsible land use. Granting this Right Of Entry would be a vital first step in helping Pōpoki Place bring this vision to life and benefit both our ecosystems and our animals.

I respectfully urge the Board to approve this measure. Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Eliyah Ominsky

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

O'ahu Resident

From: [GTan](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Regarding: measure granting Pōpoki Place approval for a "Right Of Entry" (on agenda for BLNR meeting Friday, April 11, at 9:00 a.m.)
Date: Thursday, April 10, 2025 6:22:09 PM

Dear Honorable Board of Land and Natural Resources:

I am writing to support the measure to grant right of entry to Popoki Place Oahu Cat Sanctuary. This is an important first move to helping solve the issues related to the feral, stray and otherwise homeless cat population on Oahu.

Oahu's overpopulation of street cats is well known. When you walk around our residential neighborhoods and public parks, you can easily see there are many cats roaming around. I often hear of kittens and pets of people leaving the Islands being abandoned or even thrown away. I myself have arranged for the trapping and neutering of homeless cats in my area.

For many reasons, we should reduce the number of unowned cats on Oahu.

1. For our wildlife, cats can be a threat to birds. They can also carry toxoplasmosis which when washed into the ocean can cause diseases such as to our beloved Hawaiian Monk Seal.

- Popoki Place plans a fenced in sanctuary, and, working with appropriate agencies, particularly target receiving feral cats from Hawaiian protected areas. The cats will be kept securely with high, well designed fences. Appropriately treated litter boxes will prevent pollution of ground water.

2. For our animal lovers and keiki, it's important to treat these cats with aloha and kokua. Abandoned, stray and other roaming cats can be subject to abuse and cruelty. What does this teach our keiki about disregard for life and nature? In addition, un-cared for roaming cats can carry fleas and diseases that may impact pets.

- The cat sanctuary that Popoki Place would provide can be a safe refuge for these cats. They would provide appropriate vaccinations and healthcare. Finally, Popoki will work with established, often over-filled shelters to enable them to shelter readily-adoptable cats, to be available for pet lovers, while providing a place for those less-adoptable.

While ideally Oahu's cat population would all have loving homes, and be spayed and neutered to prevent future unwanted populations, **a large-scale cat sanctuary is a practical and critical missing link in managing the free-roaming cat population here.** I appreciate your support for this key measure.

Sincerely
Gwen Tan

From: [Ginny Tiu](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Popoki Place Oahu Cat Sanctuary
Date: Thursday, April 10, 2025 9:51:58 PM

Aloha Chair and committee members,

I'm asking that you please support the bill that would give Popoki Place Oahu Cat Sanctuary the 20 acre parcel of land on the North Shore that would enable them to build and operate a cat sanctuary that is much needed in the community. We know the challenges with the feral cats but we need to find humane solutions, and not ones that cause suffering. They're just being what they were created to be and they shouldn't be punished for something that's not their fault.

This sanctuary would reduce the cat population in a meaningful and humane way, and reduce the impact on native wildlife. This would help take the pressure off and provide much needed relief to the Hawaiian Humane Society and other cat rescue groups, to enable them to do more. The time has come with this opportunity, to address this long time problem.

Mahalo nui loa for your kind consideration.

Ginny Tiu