

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

WATER AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

July 18, 2023

**Committee
Report No.** _____

Honorable Chair and Members
of the County Council
County of Maui
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Water and Infrastructure Committee, having met on May 26, 2023, and July 3, 2023, makes reference to Bill 13 (2022) [sic], entitled “A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 12.40, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO NAMES OF PUBLIC FACILITIES DESIGNATED.”

Bill 13’s purpose is to rename Puamana Beach Park, identified as tax map key (2) 2-4-033:001, Honoapi’ilani Highway, Lāhainā, Hawai‘i, to Waiahiokole Burial Preserve.

Bill 13 was referred to your Committee at the Council meeting of February 17, 2023.

Your Committee notes under Section 2.98.040, Maui County Code, an existing County park or facility may be renamed either for the location or in ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i to describe significant features of the area, the site, or the site’s use, function, or purpose.

Your Committee notes the Public Works Commission met on June 22, 2022, and the Maui County Cultural Resources Commission met on August 4, 2022, to approve the renaming of the Puamana Beach Park to Waiahiokole Burial Preserve.

By correspondence dated May 16, 2023, the Director of Parks and Recreation expressed support for the renaming of the park and said the allowed use, access, or responsibility for monitoring or maintaining the property would not change.

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A representative from the Department of Management expressed support for Bill 13. She said the renaming will provide a culturally-accurate name with meaning and purpose that was lost after years of gentrification and colonization.

Your Committee received comments from Ke‘eaumoku Kapu, representing ‘Aha Moku O Maui, Inc., saying that renaming the park to its original name would recognize the Hawaiian burials in the area and honor the mo‘olelo (history) and wahi pana (legendary place).

Your Committee received comments from cultural practitioner Cody Pueo Pata, who clarified that “Waianu‘ukole” is the correct place name to the area and explained the significance of the name. Further, your Committee received comments from Hailama Farden, whose family has long-standing connections to Lāhainā, who also expressed support for the place name.

Mr. Farden noted the beach park’s current name was derived from the name of the Farden family home, “Puamana.” He suggested preserving “Puamana” in the name change to honor the legacy and contributions of family member Emma Kapiolani Farden Sharpe (1904-1991), a legendary West Maui kumu hula.

Your Committee also discussed the possibility of including “Cultural Preserve” in the name to more appropriately reflect the area. Your Committee amended the bill to change the park’s name to “Puamana Cultural Preserve at Waianu‘ukole.”

Your Committee agreed that discussion on the reinterment of iwi kūpuna, mitigation measures, and continued management of the area warrant further consideration.

Your Committee finds that it is important for residents and visitors to learn about Maui County’s significant culture and history. Acknowledging the area’s original place name is an appropriate and meaningful way to honor its mo‘olelo.

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Your Committee expressed appreciation for the work of ‘Aha Moku O Maui, Inc., Na ‘Aikane o Maui, and other cultural and historic advisors.

Your Committee amended Bill 13’s title to make it more specific to the renaming, and corrected the bill’s year and tax map key reference.

Your Committee voted 8-0 to recommend passage of Bill 13 (2023) on first reading. Committee Chair Cook, Vice-Chair Sugimura, and members Johnson, Kama, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U‘u-Hodgins voted “aye.” Committee member Lee was excused.

Your Committee is in receipt of Bill 13, CD1 (2023), entitled “A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE RENAMING PUAMANA BEACH PARK IN LĀHAINĀ TO PUAMANA CULTURAL PRESERVE AT WAIANU‘UKOLE,” approved as to form and legality by the Department of the Corporation Counsel, incorporating your Committee’s recommended revisions and nonsubstantive revisions.

Your Water and Infrastructure Committee RECOMMENDS that Bill 13, CD1 (2023), as revised herein and attached hereto, entitled “A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE RENAMING PUAMANA BEACH PARK IN LĀHAINĀ TO PUAMANA CULTURAL PRESERVE AT WAIANU‘UKOLE,” be PASSED ON FIRST READING and be ORDERED TO PRINT.

This report is submitted in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of the Council.



TOM COOK, Chair

ORDINANCE NO. _____

BILL NO. 13, CD1 (2023)

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE RENAMING PUAMANA BEACH PARK IN
LĀHAINĀ TO PUAMANA CULTURAL PRESERVE AT WAIANU‘UKOLE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI:

SECTION 1. Chapter 12.40, Maui County Code, is amended by adding a
new section to read as follows:

“12.40.310 Puamana Cultural Preserve at Waianu‘ukole.
Puamana Cultural Preserve at Waianu‘ukole refers to the area
formerly known as Puamana Beach Park, identified as tax map key
(2) 4-6-033:001, and located on Honoapi‘ilani Highway, Lāhainā,
Hawai‘i.”

SECTION 2. New material is underscored. In printing this bill, the
County Clerk need not include the underscoring.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance takes effect on approval.

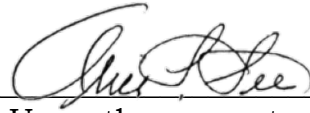
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:



Department of the Corporation Counsel
County of Maui

wai:misc:002abill03:jpp

INTRODUCED BY:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chris Lee". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Upon the request of the Mayor.