

Waikiki Neighborhood Board Resolution – July 11, 2023

RESOLUTION TO PREVENT TRASH PICK UP IN WAIKIKI BEFORE 6AM

Protecting the health, quality of life, and dignity of all residents and visitors in the City and County of Honolulu by requiring private refuse companies to begin trash pickup activities no earlier than 6 a.m.

WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu begins trash pickup activities at 6 a.m. which is a reasonable standard; and

WHEREAS, private refuse companies have been allowed to begin trash pickup activities at any time of their choosing between 2:30 a.m. and 6 a.m.; and

WHEREAS, there is no law to protect residents and visitors from the way-too-early morning trash pickup activities of private refuse companies; and

WHEREAS, sleep deprivation caused by being abruptly awakened by way-too-early morning trash pickup activities of private refuse companies result in profoundly harmful mental and physical problems for residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, way-too-early morning trash pick up is far more than a nuisance as chronic sleep deprivation and the disruption of REM sleep can have debilitating effects, eroding the functional performance and enjoyment of daily life; and

WHEREAS, everyone is tragically impacted by way-too-early morning trash pickup, from newborn babies who need more sleep than adults for their brain development, to those at the end of life whose last days should be peaceful and tranquil; and

WHEREAS, no one deserves the indignity of being awakened as early as 2:30 a.m. by the way-too-early morning trash activities of private refuse companies; and

WHEREAS, Honolulu may be the only major city in the United States that allows residents or visitors to be awakened as early as 2:30 a.m. by trash pickup activities; and

WHEREAS, trash pickup by private refuse companies before 6 a.m. can end when political leaders have a **firm belief** that respect for human dignity, not business profitability, is the highest priority; and

WHEREAS, trash pickup by private refuse companies before 6 a.m. can end when political leaders have a **deep compassion** for the residents and visitors impacted by the way-too-early morning trash pickup activities; and

WHEREAS, trash pickup by private refuse companies before 6 a.m. can end when political leaders have a **strong desire** to protect residents and visitors impacted by the way-too-early morning trash pickup activities; and

WHEREAS, trash pickup by private refuse companies before 6 a.m. can end when political leaders have a **vivid imagination** to overcome all objections; and

WHEREAS, the Hilton Hawaiian Village, the largest resort on Oahu and in Hawaii, does not allow trash pickup on their property before 6 a.m.; and

WHEREAS, all hotels and resorts smaller than the Hilton Hawaiian Village can also disallow trash pickup on their properties before 6 a.m.; and

WHEREAS, the Howard Hughes Corporation in Kakaako reported that for their restaurant and retail accounts, most trash pickup by private refuse companies occurs between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. with harm to none; and

WHEREAS, trash pickup by private refuse companies already occurs throughout the rest of Oahu between 6 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. with harm to none; and

WHEREAS, individuals opposed to changing the start time of trash pickup by private refuse companies to 6 a.m. attempt to instill fear based on faulty beliefs; and

WHEREAS, the objections for private refuse companies starting at 6 a.m. – such as: the H-POWER plant will be backed up and unable to accommodate trash disposal, refuse workers will be stuck in traffic on the H-1 freeway, there will be a danger to visitors, traffic will become congested on the streets, restaurants and retail shops will experience irreparable harm, and curious children will be hit by trash vehicles – are all fears based on faulty beliefs; and

WHEREAS, every resident and visitor on Oahu deserves to be protected from the sounds of abuse of the beeping, banging, and clanging of dumpsters being moved and emptied as early as 2:30 a.m., now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that this board believes that no person deserves the abuse of being awakened as early as 2:30 a.m. by the trash pickup activities of private refuse companies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this board supports a law that will protect all residents and visitors on Oahu from the abuse of way-too-early morning trash pickup by private refuse companies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this board requests the Honolulu City Council introduce a bill advocating no trash pickup by private refuse companies before 6 a.m., and the bill include residential, apartment, mixed-use, hotel, and commercial zones.