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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO PLAN FOR THE  
NECESSARY IMPROVEMENTS TO, AND REVITALIZATION OF, HANS  
L'ORANGE PARK.

1           WHEREAS, over time, Waipahu has evolved as a result of the  
2 area's economic mainstay, the Oahu Sugar Company; and

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4           WHEREAS, the Oahu Sugar Company was established in 1897 and  
5 was a major contributor to Waipahu's growth and prosperity; and

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7           WHEREAS, Waipahu is a classic example of a diverse sugar  
8 plantation town; and

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10          WHEREAS, as a primary source of employment, the plantation  
11 attracted a mix of immigrant workers who formed a community of  
12 various cultures, traditions, and lifestyles; and

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14          WHEREAS, Hans L'Orange was an Oahu Sugar Company manager  
15 who, in 1924, persuaded his superiors to authorize the use of  
16 several acres of low-yielding sugar cane land upon which to  
17 build a recreation area for workers; and

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19          WHEREAS, L'Orange believed that wholesome recreational and  
20 social activities were the keys to happiness and health for the  
21 plantation workers; and

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23          WHEREAS, in 1972, this recreation area was renamed Hans  
24 L'Orange Park; and

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26          WHEREAS, as part of the Waipahu 2000 Plan, a "passive park"  
27 area that would retain most of the mature trees was incorporated  
28 into Hans L'Orange Park allowing for the expansion of the  
29 baseball field at the Hans L'Orange Park for professional-level  
30 use; and



1           WHEREAS, consequently, Hans L'Orange Park has hosted home  
2 games for the Waipahu High School Marauders and Hawaii Pacific  
3 University Sharks baseball teams; and  
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5           WHEREAS, in the mid-1990's to early 2000's, the Hans  
6 L'Orange Park was the ballpark of choice for the Hawaii Winter  
7 Baseball Leagues and other local and regional baseball teams and  
8 leagues; and  
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10           WHEREAS, Hans L'Orange Park includes a commemorative  
11 monument saluting nineteen Waipahu sports legends, including  
12 Hans L'Orange; brothers Fred, Johnny, Eddie and Chester Yasui;  
13 Andy Ganigan; Al Silva; Henry "Prince" Oana; Kenneth Kimura;  
14 Richard Oamilda; Chrispin Mancao; Katsuji Kojima; Brown Watabu;  
15 Walter Gouveia, Sr.; Masa Yonamine; James Moniz; Takemi Arakawa;  
16 Dr. Richard Noda; and Mac Flores; and  
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18           WHEREAS, Hans L'Orange Park has not been immune to the  
19 ravages of time and neglect; and  
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21           WHEREAS, Hans L'Orange Park and its surrounding facilities,  
22 including the bathroom facilities, play areas, parking  
23 facilities, and baseball field, have deteriorated, resulting in  
24 limited use and unsafe conditions; and  
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26           WHEREAS, the homeless population has encroached on the park  
27 grounds, thus creating an unsafe and unsanitary situation; and  
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29           WHEREAS, Hans L'Orange Park is one of several district  
30 parks serving Waipahu; and  
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32           WHEREAS, due to Hans L'Orange Park's celebrated historical  
33 past and the park's location in the Waipahu Heritage District,  
34 it is imperative that Hans L'Orange Park be repaired and  
35 restored so that the park may once again be a safe place for  
36 recreation and social gathering for the Waipahu community and  
37 visitors; and  
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39           WHEREAS, Hans L'Orange Park is approaching its one hundred  
40 year anniversary; and  
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42           WHEREAS, the current budget of the City and County of  
43 Honolulu for Hans L'Orange Park is \$8,000,000, which is limited



1 to improvements for the field, parking facilities, bathroom  
2 facilities, and drainage; and  
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4 WHEREAS, final design plans for Hans L'Orange Park are  
5 scheduled to be approved and put out to bid by the end of the  
6 year; and  
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8 WHEREAS, broader repair, restoration, and revitalization of  
9 Hans L'Orange Park, including the "passive park" green space,  
10 bathroom facilities, play areas, parking facilities, baseball  
11 field, and other ancillary facilities, will enable the City and  
12 County of Honolulu and the Waipahu community to promote a sense  
13 of place and showcase community spirit based on the area's rich  
14 and colorful plantation heritage; now, therefore,  
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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
17 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
18 of 2021, the Senate concurring, that the City and County of  
19 Honolulu is encouraged to plan for the necessary improvements  
20 to, and revitalization of, Hans L'Orange Park, including the  
21 design of the revitalized park and the repairs necessary to  
22 restore park facilities; and  
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City and County of Honolulu  
25 is requested to consider repairing and improving playground  
26 equipment, the basketball court, and pedestrian walkways at Hans  
27 L'Orange Park; and  
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City and County of Honolulu  
30 officials are encouraged to seek input from Waipahu residents  
31 and relevant community organizations and businesses to determine  
32 the appropriate improvements to be made to Hans L'Orange Park;  
33 and  
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
36 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City  
37 and County of Honolulu, Chair of the Honolulu City Council,  
38 Director of Parks and Recreation of the City and County of  
39 Honolulu, Director of Design and Construction of the City and  
40 County of Honolulu, and Director of Facility Maintenance of the  
41 City and County of Honolulu.

