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# HOUSE 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



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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  
17

18           WHEREAS, Hans L'Orange Park has not been immune to the  
19 ravages of time and neglect; and  
20

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  
28

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  
40 hundred-year anniversary; and  
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1 WHEREAS, the repair, restoration, and revitalization of  
 2 Hans L'Orange Park, including the "passive park" green space,  
 3 bathroom facilities, play areas, parking facilities, baseball  
 4 field, and other ancillary facilities, will enable the City and  
 5 County of Honolulu and the Waipahu community to promote a sense  
 6 of place and showcase community spirit based on the area's rich  
 7 and colorful plantation heritage; now, therefore,

8  
 9 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 10 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
 11 of 2021, that the City and County of Honolulu is encouraged to  
 12 plan for the necessary improvements to, and revitalization of,  
 13 Hans L'Orange Park, including the design of the revitalized park  
 14 and the repairs necessary to restore park facilities; and

15  
 16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City and County of Honolulu  
 17 officials are encouraged to seek input from Waipahu residents  
 18 and relevant community organizations and businesses to determine  
 19 the appropriate improvements to be made to Hans L'Orange Park;  
 20 and

21  
 22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 23 Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City and County of  
 24 Honolulu, Chair of the Honolulu City Council, Director of Parks  
 25 and Recreation of the City and County of Honolulu, Director of  
 26 Design and Construction for the City and County of Honolulu, and  
 27 Director of Facility Maintenance of the City and County of  
 28 Honolulu.

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OFFERED BY:

  
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FEB 22 2021

