

Proclamation

WHEREAS, water infuses almost every aspect of O'ahu's existence, as it shapes the lives of more than 1 million residents and visitors and helps our island communities and the economy thrive; and

WHEREAS, O'ahu's precious groundwater resource sustainability is being threatened by the impacts of climate change through increased and more severe drought, and the loss of three water sources near Red Hill resulting from the 2021 Red Hill fuel spill; and

WHEREAS, to help preserve O'ahu's groundwater supply, recognizing and using all available forms of water resources has become key for long-term resilience; and

WHEREAS, the One Water concept integrates the management of stormwater, wastewater, groundwater, seawater, freshwater, greywater, and recycled water to create resource and financial efficiencies, and it protects and uses water through management efforts of conservation, recharge, and reuse by various city and state agencies and community organizations; and

WHEREAS, the agencies and organizations will recognize the significance of the One Water concept on O'ahu through the national "Imagine-A-Day Without Water" observance on October 19, 2023; and

WHEREAS, these agencies will further collaborate to educate the public about the One Water concept and the importance of proper management and stewardship of all of Oahu's water resources on Saturday, October 21, 2023, at a special community event held inside the Wahiawa Freshwater State Recreation Area from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, these two occurrences further support the City's efforts to be more ecologically friendly and resilient,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICK BLANGIARDI, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, do hereby proclaim October 19, 2023, to be

"IMAGINE A DAY WITHOUT WATER" DAY

to join with the City and State partner agencies in urging residents, businesses, organizations, and government agencies across the state to consider ways to protect and optimize the value of water to keep our precious island home healthy and thriving for generations to come.

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Done this 19th day of October, 2023, in Honolulu, Hawai'i.

Ring Blangiardi

RICK BLANGIARDI