

10/19/2025

This written testimony is regarding item (V.) New Business (4.) Paving of DEM's metal recycling area. The metal recycling area is used for disposal of various types of metals. Appliances, bicycles, roofing, scrap metal and other types of metals from construction. The disposal area is gravel and usually has nails, small sharp metal pieces. Due to the area where you need to drive in and unload your materials, it's inevitable to have a punctured tire. I have had this happen when recycling several years ago.

I spoke with some personal at the disposal site, they do have a rolling magnet to use, however due to the gravel it makes it mostly useless. I have spoken to other people who use this area and they mention the same issue. They rather just throw away scrap metal with the trash instead of recycling it. I think it would be a benefit to the public to pave the metal recycling area. The department should be able to find the resources to do it at minimal costs. Acting Division Chief Chris Laude may have insight on the paving costs as something similar was done at the Hilo Wastewater Treatment Plant with his approval in 2023. The only difference I see is that the metal recycling area will not need two illegal unapproved underground storage tanks that needed to be removed by a contractor at the expense to taxpayers.

Thank you, Alan Fukamizu





