
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO STUDY THE
DEVELOPMENT OF A SUBMERSIBLE VEHICULAR TUNNEL FROM EWA TO
DOWNTOWN HONOLULU.

1 WHEREAS, traffic congestion from the Ewa plains communities
2 and points farther west to and from town is becoming horrendous
3 with the numerous housing developments in Ewa and Kapolei and
4 will only get worse with the continued development in those
5 areas; and

6
7 WHEREAS, traffic commuting times are seriously
8 deteriorating the quality of life of residents in west Oahu who
9 must commute to work and school in the main urban core of
10 Honolulu; and

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12 WHEREAS, one solution that has been considered in the past
13 is development of a vehicular submersible tunnel beneath Pearl
14 Harbor; and

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16 WHEREAS, House Resolution No. 162, H.D. 1, Regular Session
17 of 1992, requested that the Oahu Metropolitan Planning
18 Organization (OMPO) conduct a study on the feasibility of
19 constructing a vehicular submersible tunnel under Pearl Harbor,
20 with an Ewa portal on federal property at Iroquois Point and a
21 Diamond Head portal on the Pearl Harbor Naval Base; and

22
23 WHEREAS, the United States Department of the Navy objected
24 to the proposal because of security, general safety, limited
25 real estate, and operational reasons; and

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27 WHEREAS, alternatively, a similar vehicular submersible
28 tunnel could be developed with an Ewa portal on non-federal
29 public lands in the Ewa Beach area, running parallel to the
30 shoreline in Ewa Beach, crossing under the Pearl Harbor channel,
31 running parallel to the Honolulu International Airport reef
32 runway, and emerging at a Diamond Head portal in the vicinity of



1 the Airport Viaduct and Nimitz Highway interchange (the
2 "additional proposed route"); and

3
4 WHEREAS, this additional proposed route should not impact
5 any federal lands or Department of the Navy operations, with the
6 only possible impact being crossing under the Pearl Harbor
7 channel; now, therefore,

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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
10 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
11 of 2006, the Senate concurring, that the Legislative Reference
12 Bureau (LRB) is requested to study the feasibility of developing
13 a submersible vehicular tunnel from Ewa to downtown Honolulu,
14 including studying OMPO's January 1993 report relating to the
15 Pearl Harbor Tunnel using the additional proposed route; and

16
17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting this study, LRB
18 is requested to address but not be limited to the following
19 matters:

- 20
- 21 (1) A definitive description of the additional proposed
22 route;
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 - 24 (2) An alternative route or routes to the additional
25 proposed route, and reasons for choosing the
26 alternative route or routes;
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 - 28 (3) Updated cost estimates for planning, designing, and
29 constructing the vehicular submersible tunnel using
30 the additional proposed route or an alternative route
31 or routes;
 - 32
 - 33 (4) An estimated time-line for the planning, designing,
34 and construction of a vehicular submersible tunnel
35 using the additional proposed route or alternative
36 route or routes;
 - 37
 - 38 (5) Estimating the vehicular submersible tunnel's travel
39 time impact; and
 - 40
 - 41 (6) The comments and recommendations from the Department
42 of the Navy;

43
44 and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Acting Director of
3 the Legislative Reference Bureau and the Commander of Naval Base
4 Pearl Harbor, Department of the Navy.

