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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, WITH ASSISTANCE  
FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, TO  
DEVELOP A STATEWIDE GREENBELTS STRATEGY.

1           WHEREAS, approximately ninety per cent of personal travel  
2 in Hawaii is by private automobiles, which pollutes the air,  
3 clogs highways, and wastes energy reserves; and

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5           WHEREAS, current land planning fosters dependency on  
6 personal automobiles by placing homes far from stores and jobs;  
7 and

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9           WHEREAS, typical suburban development sprawls over the  
10 countryside, destroying Hawaii's natural beauty; and

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12           WHEREAS, the State and the counties need to rethink their  
13 land use policies to reduce dependency on the personal  
14 automobile and imported oil used for travel; and

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16           WHEREAS, new policies should promote mixed use pedestrian-  
17 oriented communities around transit hubs that blend reasonably  
18 priced housing, work, and shopping areas and create  
19 neighborhoods that encourage walking and biking; and

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21           WHEREAS, greenbelts are linear open spaces established  
22 along either a natural corridor, such as a stream or ridgeline,  
23 or corridors established by humans, such as a trail, road, or  
24 former railway; and

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26           WHEREAS, a greenbelt strategy should:

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28           (1) Promote non-motorized transportation modes, such as  
29 walking, jogging, hiking, bicycling, skating, and  
30 horseback riding;

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- 1 (2) Create integrated ground transportation and  
2 recreational systems;
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- 4 (3) Benefit urban, suburban, and rural habitats;
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- 6 (4) Create and enhance recreational activities and  
7 opportunities;
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- 9 (5) Enhance visitor attractions and associated business  
10 opportunities;
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- 12 (6) Incorporate, where possible, the use of federal  
13 funding available under the Intermodal Surface  
14 Transportation Efficiency Act; and
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- 16 (7) Provide a resource guideline for further acquisition  
17 of public, private, and government lands to be  
18 utilized for public recreation and non-motorized  
19 transit; now, therefore,
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21 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
22 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
23 of 2006, the Senate concurring, that the Department of  
24 Transportation, with the assistance of the Department of Land  
25 and Natural Resources, is requested to develop a statewide  
26 greenbelts strategy to promote the identification or development  
27 of transportation system management models and alternatives to  
28 the automobile pursuant to chapter 226, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
29 while preserving the natural resources and beauty of the State;  
30 and

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in developing the greenbelts  
33 strategy, the Department of Transportation is requested to:

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- 35 (1) Incorporate existing and proposed non-motorized  
36 transportation and recreational master plans for each  
37 island;
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- 39 (2) Assess existing and potential lands for beautification  
40 projects, corridors, and linkages to create greenbelts  
41 on each island; including existing and former railway  
42 lines, trails, creek and river corridors, roadways,  
43 and other areas that are underutilized and could be  
44 converted to public recreational use;



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- 2 (3) Gather information on other greenbelts programs
- 3 throughout the United States and the world;
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- 5 (4) Facilitate the coordination of the planning and
- 6 implementation of greenbelts with federal, state, and
- 7 county agencies, businesses, and citizens;
- 8
- 9 (5) Facilitate the coordination of the planning of
- 10 sustainable communities for the State;
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- 12 (6) Examine funding strategies from public and private
- 13 sources to implement various projects;
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- 15 (7) Propose ways to educate and inform government
- 16 officials and the public on the many benefits of
- 17 greenbelts;
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- 19 (8) Establish further goals and strategies to create
- 20 greenbelts in Hawaii and set priorities for their
- 21 implementation; and
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- 23 (9) Promote the health, safety, and welfare of the
- 24 community by striving for a balance between motorized
- 25 and non-motorized transit systems; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in developing a greenbelts  
28 strategy, the Department of Transportation is requested to  
29 confer with:

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- 31 (1) The Office of Planning of the Department of Business,
- 32 Economic Development, and Tourism;
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- 34 (2) The director of each county's department responsible
- 35 for transportation management issues;
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- 37 (3) The director of each county's department responsible
- 38 for planning issues;
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- 40 (4) The Department of Urban and Regional Planning of the
- 41 University of Hawaii;
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- 43 (5) A citizen activist group from each of the islands; and
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1 (6) Bicycle advocacy groups; and

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3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of  
4 Transportation is requested to provide interested parties with  
5 the opportunity to participate in developing the greenbelts  
6 strategy by holding public meetings on all islands or, if that  
7 is not feasible, by accepting testimony and public input via the  
8 state video conferencing center; and

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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of  
11 Transportation is requested to develop an action plan with  
12 recommendations on the deployment of the greenbelts strategy,  
13 including proposed timetables and budgets; and

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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of  
16 Transportation is requested to submit its greenbelts strategy,  
17 action plan for implementation of the greenbelts strategy, and  
18 findings and recommendations, including proposed legislation, if  
19 any, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the  
20 convening of the Regular Session of 2007; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
23 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of  
24 Transportation, the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural  
25 Resources, the Director of Business, Economic Development, and  
26 Tourism, the Mayor of each county, the director of each county's  
27 respective planning department, the director of each county's  
28 respective transportation department, the Chairperson of the  
29 University of Hawaii Board of Regents, and the President of the  
30 University of Hawaii.

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OFFERED BY:

*Mele Carroll*  
*James...*  
*John H. Kuroki*  
*28 Nakama*  
*John P.*  
*Joseph...*  
*John B. Berg*  
*John...*

*Michael P. Kalanick*  
*Cindy Evans*  
*Michael...*



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