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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, WITH ASSISTANCE  
FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, TO  
FURTHER PROMOTE ITS 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 use planning fosters dependence 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 dependence 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, the general public will have the opportunity to  
22 participate in public meetings held by the Departments of  
23 Transportation and Land and Natural Resources in their efforts  
24 to plan the development of a long-term greenbelts strategy; and  
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26           WHEREAS, greenbelts are linear open spaces established  
27 along either a natural corridor, such as a stream or ridgeline,  
28 or corridors established by humans, such as a trail, road, or  
29 former railway; and  
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31           WHEREAS, a greenbelt strategy should:  
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- 1 (1) Promote non-motorized transportation modes, such as
- 2 walking, jogging, hiking, bicycling, skating, and
- 3 horseback riding;
- 4
- 5 (2) Create integrated ground transportation and
- 6 recreational systems;
- 7
- 8 (3) Benefit urban, suburban, and rural habitats;
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- 10 (4) Create and enhance recreational activities and
- 11 opportunities;
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- 13 (5) Enhance visitor attractions and associated business
- 14 opportunities;
- 15
- 16 (6) Incorporate, where possible, the use of federal
- 17 funding available under the Intermodal Surface
- 18 Transportation Efficiency Act; and
- 19
- 20 (7) Provide a resource guideline for further acquisition
- 21 of public, private, and government lands to be
- 22 utilized for public recreation and non-motorized
- 23 transit; now, therefore,
- 24

25 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 26 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
 27 of 2006, that the Department of Transportation, with the  
 28 assistance of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, is  
 29 encouraged to further promote, pursuant to the Hawaii State  
 30 Planning Act, its statewide greenbelts strategy to promote the  
 31 identification or development of transportation system  
 32 management models and alternatives to the automobile while  
 33 preserving the natural resources and beauty of the State; and  
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in further promoting its  
 36 greenbelts strategy, the Department of Transportation is  
 37 encouraged to:

- 38
- 39 (1) Incorporate existing and proposed non-motorized
- 40 transportation and recreational master plans for each
- 41 island;
- 42
- 43 (2) Assess existing and potential lands for beautification
- 44 projects, corridors, and linkages to create greenbelts



1 on each island, including existing and former railway  
2 lines, trails, creek and river corridors, roadways,  
3 and other areas that are underutilized and that could  
4 be converted to public recreational use;

- 5
- 6 (3) Gather information on other greenbelts programs  
7 throughout the United States and the world;
- 8
- 9 (4) Facilitate the coordination of the planning and  
10 implementation of greenbelts with federal, state, and  
11 county agencies, businesses, and citizens;
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- 13 (5) Facilitate the coordination of the planning of  
14 sustainable communities for the State;
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- 16 (6) Examine funding strategies from public and private  
17 sources to implement various projects;
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- 19 (7) Propose ways to educate and inform government  
20 officials and the public on the many benefits of  
21 greenbelts;
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- 23 (8) Establish further goals and strategies to create  
24 greenbelts in Hawaii and set priorities for their  
25 implementation; and
- 26
- 27 (9) Promote the health, safety, and welfare of the  
28 community by striving for a balance between motorized  
29 and non-motorized transit systems; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in further promoting its  
32 greenbelts strategy, the Department of Transportation is  
33 encouraged to confer with:

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- 35 (1) The Office of Planning of the Department of Business,  
36 Economic Development, and Tourism;
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- 38 (2) The director of each county's department responsible  
39 for transportation management issues;
- 40
- 41 (3) The director of each county's department responsible  
42 for planning issues;
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- 1 (4) The Department of Urban and Regional Planning of the
- 2 University of Hawaii;
- 3
- 4 (5) A citizen advocacy group from each of the islands; and
- 5
- 6 (6) Bicycle advocacy groups; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of  
 9 Transportation is encouraged to provide interested parties with  
 10 the opportunity to participate in developing the greenbelts  
 11 strategy by holding public meetings on all islands or, if that  
 12 is not feasible, by accepting testimony and public input via the  
 13 state video conferencing center; and

14  
 15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of  
 16 Transportation is encouraged to develop an action plan with  
 17 recommendations on the further promotion of its greenbelts  
 18 strategy, including proposed timetables and budgets; and

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

26  
 27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 28 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation, the  
 29 Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, the  
 30 Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, the  
 31 Mayor and the Chairperson of the Council of each county, the  
 32 director of each county agency having primary responsibility for  
 33 planning, transportation, or both, the Chairperson of the  
 34 University of Hawaii Board of Regents, and the President of the  
 35 University of Hawaii.

