
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO REVIEW AND UPDATE
PRIOR STUDIES RELATING TO THE IDENTIFICATION AND
FEASIBILITY OF AN ALTERNATE ROUTE INTO AND OUT OF THE
WAIANAЕ COAST ON OAHU.

1 WHEREAS, the eighty thousand residents of the Waianae Coast
2 have long suffered from inadequate traffic access into various
3 areas on the leeward coast and out to central Oahu and beyond,
4 especially in times of emergency; and
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6 WHEREAS, for example, in January 2000, a hostage situation
7 on Farrington Highway in Nanakuli left thousands of leeward
8 coast residents stranded for hours while police negotiated with
9 the suspect. In May 2000, a burst water main that collapsed a
10 section of Farrington Highway caused another massive traffic jam
11 on Memorial Day and in August 2005, brush fires ravaged
12 mountains and valleys in Nanakuli, closing Farrington Highway
13 twice, cutting off access to and from the Waianae Coast for
14 several hours in the morning and again at night; and
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16 WHEREAS, in March 2006, twelve electric utility poles were
17 blown down by unusually high winds in Nanakuli, causing more
18 than a day's traffic congestion and affecting all four lanes on
19 Farrington Highway as electric company crews closed the lanes to
20 replace the utility poles; and
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22 WHEREAS, heavy winds and rains in December 2007, again
23 damaged at least thirty-six electric utility poles and downed
24 electrical lines in Nanakuli and Maili, causing some lane
25 closures on Farrington Highway as workers repaired the damage;
26 and
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28 WHEREAS, during some emergencies in the past, the public
29 has been permitted to use the four-mile, unimproved Kolekole
30 Pass, which was constructed in 1937 by United States Army
31 engineers and runs through the United States Naval Magazine at
32 Lualualei over the Waianae Range and connects Schofield



1 Barracks, as a detour route to and from the Waianae Coast area;
2 and
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4 WHEREAS, for example, civilians were allowed to use the
5 Kolekole Pass in July 2003, when a police officer and a child
6 were killed and five other people were injured in a head-on
7 collision that closed all four lanes of Farrington Highway; and
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9 WHEREAS, however, Kolekoke Pass is not a realistic or
10 viable long-term option as an alternate route into and out of
11 the Waianae Coast; and
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13 WHEREAS, House Resolution No. 160, H.D. 1 (2000), which was
14 adopted on April 13, 2000, requested the Oahu Metropolitan
15 Planning Organization to comprehensively examine solutions to
16 various traffic problems on the Waianae Coast, including
17 determining the feasibility of an alternate route to the Waianae
18 Coast and a route to and from the Waianae Coast to be used in
19 times of emergency; and
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21 WHEREAS, in 2002, the Oahu Metropolitan Planning
22 Organization submitted a report to the Legislature entitled
23 *Report to the 2002 Hawaii State Legislature: On the Status of*
24 *Waianae Coast Transportation Studies and Projects*; and
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26 WHEREAS, while the lack of a viable and permanent alternate
27 route into and out of the Waianae Coast continues to be a
28 problem, the issue has been examined and various plans and data
29 have been generated; now, therefore,
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31 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
32 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
33 Session of 2008, that the Department of Transportation is
34 requested to review and update prior studies relating to the
35 identification and feasibility of an alternate route into and
36 out of the Waianae Coast on Oahu; and
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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Oahu Metropolitan Planning
39 Organization is requested to fully cooperate with and support
40 the Director of Transportation in the Director's review and
41 update of alternate routes to and from the Waianae Coast; and
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43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Transportation
44 is requested to submit to the Legislature a report of the review



1 and update of plans for a feasible alternate route into and out
 2 of the Waianae Coast, including recommendations and any
 3 necessary legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the
 4 convening of the 2009 Regular Session; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation, the Executive Director of the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization, and the Mayor and the Director of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu.

OFFERED BY:

Karen Amano
Tom Brower
~~*[Signature]*~~

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Jyla B. Berg
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 MAR 11 2008