



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

March 24, 2008

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.224
HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 191

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

We support the intent of these resolutions.

The adopted 2030 Oahu Regional Transportation Plan (ORTP) proposes a new \$0.4 billion 2-lane access road from Farrington Highway in the vicinity of Maili, over the Waianae Mountain Range, to Kunia Road. Due to the high cost and potential environmental impacts, the State Department of Transportation (DOT) and the City Department of Transportation Services (DTS) are pursuing other alternatives.

In February 2008, DOT staff completed a draft evaluation of improvements required to use Kolekole Pass as either an unrestricted public access or as an emergency route. Our preliminary estimate is that about \$33.5 million of improvements would be required to allow unrestricted public use of Kolekole Pass. By comparison, about \$10 million of improvements and roughly \$100,000 per year in maintenance would be needed for safe, intermittent public use of Kokole Pass as an emergency route. Since the affected property is owned by the Army (on the Windward side) and Navy (on the Leeward side), either option would require an easement in favor of the DOT or the DTS and execution of agreements, which address Army and Navy concerns about security, maintenance, and liability.

The City is incrementally completing a Waianae Coast Emergency Access Road to connect various "backroads" from Makaha to Nanakuli. Parts of this route will be "gated" and only opened (by Civil Defense or HPD) in case of emergency. Our understanding is that this emergency route will be operational within a year or two.

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Kanani Kaaiawahia Bulawan

**To: Rep. Souki, Chair
Rep. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair
Committee on Transportation**

**Fr: Kanani Kaaiawahia Bulawan,
Kanaka Maoli, Part Hawaiian and a Private Citizen**

Date: March 23, 2008

**Re: Hearing Date: March 24, 2008
Time of Hearing: 10:00am
Place of Hearing: Rm 309**

**FULL SUPPORT OF HCR224 / HR 191
DOT review and update studies for an Alternate Route out of Waianae Coast**

Aloha Chair, Vice-Chair and members of the committee:

I'm Kanani Kaaiawahia Bulawan, a long time resident, property/homeowner of Maili and a very concerned private citizen of Hawaii. I am also a staff member of Rep. Karen Awana. However, my views, opinions and statements are of my own personal experience and preference. I'm testifying in **Support of THE INTENT to HCR 224 and HR 191** relating to DOT reviewing and updating the study for an Alternate Route out of Waianae Coast. However, I would want to recommend a few changes to the language so that there is clear outcomes rather than suggestive.

As a long time resident of the area (Maili) and a homeowner, I've continued to experience many delays and at times complete slowdown for hours if not complete inability to leave the community because of the difficulties we experience with our roadways in accessing routes that will lead us to the greater island of Oahu. As we know recent events have again put our community out on its own as if we are our own island, city and state. The changes I would like to recommend is that enough studies have taken place; it's now time to implement the actions that will lead us to the alternate route. The state is in positions of purchasing property for the preservation of serenity while it should be in the position to purchase property for the betterment of the public use and assure our safety and wellness is preserved.

I'm in support of the intent to this measure; I offer this consideration for changes and ask for your favor to support the measure. Thank you for allowing me this time to submit my testimony and **request your favor to support this measure**. For more information I can be contacted at 696-1654.

Mahalo,