



HAWAII COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



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KALAELOA

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STATEMENT OF
ANTHONY J. H. CHING, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Monday, March 30, 2009

9:00 A.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 309

**H.C.R. 302, H. R. 274 - URGING THE HAWAII COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TO CREATE AND
MAINTAIN A BIKE PATH THROUGH THE
HONOLULU DOWNTOWN AREA.**

Purpose: H.C.R. 302 and H. R. 274 urge the Hawaii Community Development Authority ("HCDA") to create and maintain a bike path through the Honolulu Downtown area.

Position: The HCDA supports the creation of bicycle facilities in Kakaako in conjunction with the implementation of the City and County of Honolulu (City) Bicycle Master Plan.

The mission of the HCDA is not to simply administer zoning rules in Kakaako which might produce the delivery of reserved housing units from willing developers, but also includes: a responsibility to plan and implement capital improvement projects to upgrade infrastructure and develop public facilities, coordinating the development of mixed-use projects, and most importantly identifying the preferred future that stakeholders and residents of our development districts desire. In sum, with the support of the Legislature and stakeholders, the HCDA strives to create efficient and sustainable communities that enhance the quality of life for its residents.

The Kakaako Waterfront Park currently includes a bike friendly promenade along the water's edge. Improvements are being planned for the park and will include the demarcation of bike lanes and other facilities as described in the City's Bicycle Master Plan. Other facilities along the Ala Moana Boulevard will be developed as capital improvement project funds become available and in conjunction with the State Department of Transportation. HCDA staff has met with the City's Bicycle Master Planning consultant and will also incorporate the development of bicycle facilities, which may be described for the Halekauwila, Queen Street or Kapiolani Boulevard corridors, into the Mauka Area Plan currently being updated.

Creating opportunities for multi-modal forms of transportation is essential to creating a community. In Kakaako, development of bicycle facilities will encourage bike use, make neighborhoods more pedestrian friendly, and provide an alternative to vehicular transportation. We will strive to make bicycle facilities in Kakaako a part of a greater network serving urban Honolulu.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

TO: Committee on Transportation

DATE: Saturday, March 28, 2009

FROM: Natalie Iwasa
aka Bicycle Mom
1331 Lunalilo Home Road
Honolulu, HI 96825
808-395-3233

HEARING: Monday, March 30, 2009, 9 a.m.

SUBJECT: HCR 302/HR 274 Downtown Bike Lane - Support

Aloha Chair Souki, Vice Chair Awana and Committee Members,

This resolution asks the HCDA to create and maintain a bike path through the downtown Honolulu area. Thirty out of 33 Oahu neighborhood boards, OMPO and the counties of Honolulu and Kauai supported the Bicycle Safety Resolution which included a request for the city and state to develop and maintain bikeways, i.e., bike lanes, bike paths and bike routes. I wholeheartedly support the resolution with a slight change: substitute "bike lane" for "bike path." Given the limited space downtown, a bike lane will be easier to implement than a bike path.

Please vote yes for this resolution. Bicycling has benefits that provide solutions to many of the concerns people have today, including reduction of traffic congestion and air pollution. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.