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SB 718 SD1
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

House Committee on Transportation

Public Hearing – March 23, 2009
9:00 a.m., State Capitol, Conference Room 309

By

Peter Rappa, Environmental Center
Harry Partika, Systems Manager, Social Sciences
Karl Kim, Professor, Urban and Regional Planning
Nicole Lowen, Environmental Center

SB 718 SD1 requires the Department of Transportation and the county transportation departments to seek to reasonably accommodate access and mobility for all users of highways, roads, and streets, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, motorists, and persons of all abilities. It establishes a temporary task force to review certain specified traffic policies and guidelines and to report to legislature in 2010 and 2011. We are testifying as individual faculty and staff and our views do not represent an official position of the University of Hawaii.

Complete Streets is a policy to enable safe access for all street users: pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities. A complete streets policy ensures that the entire right of way is routinely designed and operated to enable safe access for all users. Creating complete streets means changing the policies and practices of transportation agencies. Transportation agencies must ensure that all road projects result in a complete street appropriate to local context and needs. A Complete Streets policy for Hawaii promotes health and safety for all users of our transportation infrastructure by accommodating the different needs of all our residents, not just automobile owners.

Our current street designs reflect a history of policy supporting automobile use, while needs of pedestrians and cyclists have been underrepresented. Between 2001 and 2007 there were more than 1,200 cyclist injuries across the state, with almost half of those injured under the age of 15. A 2006 survey by the AARP found Hawaii to be one of the most dangerous places in the nation to be a pedestrian. When gas prices spiked last year, and more people opted for alternative transportation choices, there was a corresponding increase in the number of accidents, injuries and fatalities involving cyclists and pedestrians. This demonstrates the degree to which our streets have become regrettably unsafe for anything except the automobile. A complete street policy would not only make our streets safer, but could help to reduce fossil fuel use and air pollution, and could lead to improvements in public health by encouraging walking and biking. The cost of “getting it right” up front will be far less than the cost of expensive retrofits that might be required later.

This bill calls for an adoption of a Complete Streets policy by the State Department of Transportation and the county transit departments. A good complete streets policy includes:

- A vision for how and why the community wants to complete its streets.
- The needs of all users including pedestrians, bicyclists, and public transportation passengers of all ages and abilities, as well as trucks, buses, and automobiles.
- Street connectivity and a comprehensive, integrated, connected network for all modes.
- Both new and retrofit projects, including design, planning, maintenance, and operations, for the entire right of way.
- Exceptions specific and sets a clear procedure that requires high-level approval of exceptions.
- The use of the latest and best design standards while recognizing the need for flexibility in balancing user needs.
- Complete streets solutions compliment the context of the community.
- Performance standards with measurable outcomes.
- Specific next steps for implementation of the policy.

And in addition, it is adoptable by all agencies to cover all roads.

To help develop the policy this bill calls for the creation of a temporary task force of transportation stakeholders including agencies and non-governmental organizations. The broad representation called for will insure that all of the transportation interests are discussed in the development of the Complete Streets policy. We would suggest that representatives from both the University's planning and civil engineering departments be included in the task force since both disciplines have practioners that deal with the movement of cars, bike, pedestrians but come at the issues from different perspectives.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this bill.

Testimony in Support of SB 718 SD1 “Complete Streets”

Aloha,

Serving as the **McCully – Mo’ili’ili Neighborhood Board** chair for the past 5 ½ years and as a board member for nearly twenty years, the following is why our Neighborhood Board and I support HB 306 “Complete Streets”. Our N.B. has been pro-active for safer crosswalks, safer bicycling and sidewalks since 2004. I am also testifying as an AARP member.

One Voice and **AARP** have provided the macro view for supporting “Complete Streets”. Representing McCully and Mo’ili’ili, may I present a micro view of the program.

Mo’ili’ili is an old neighborhood. Our Prince Kuhio Elementary School will celebrate its 125th anniversary this year. There was no “Complete Streets” when the school was built in 1884, or in the early ’60s when a fourth grader died crossing S. King Street trying to go to school one morning.

In 2000 the U.S. Census showed 16% of Mo’ili’ili consisted of senior citizens and 8% of our population was under the age of ten – both are at-risk groups for crossing streets. This is one of four of my neighbors. Upon the completion of the 2010 census this will become 22% seniors and 8% under the age of ten – or one in three neighbors at-risk going to school, going to the bank, to eat in a restaurant, visit the library or drugstore, etc.

My neighbor, Eudie Schick uses a HandiVan as she cannot get over the curbs to reach the bus stop. The ADA cuts have not been retrofitted. My neighbor, Gwyne Isa, is in her 2nd year of rehabilitation from a mid-day accident on S. King at Hauoli Streets, because a pedestrian activate crosswalk that the N.B. has asked for at this site yearly, still has not been installed. Bids for this project will be going out in April, May or June according to a report at the 5 February 2009 N.B. meeting.

Personally, I’ve given names to three stoplights in Mo’ili’ili that were installed two plus years after a person was run over at each intersection. This helps me keep my focus on what we are trying to accomplish.

To reach Lunalilo Elementary School, keiki from mauka need to cross Young Street and S. King Street. Neither offer crosswalks, pedestrian activated crossing signals, traffic signals, or a crossing guard. At this site, during a “pedestrian/driver” awareness campaign, an HPD major was nearly hit as he escorted keiki across the street. To reach the school from makai, our at-risk keiki cross Kapiolani Blvd or McCully Street.

To reach Prince Kuhio Elem. School, keiki from mauka cross Old Waiialae Road, the Hi-1 freeway on/off ramp and S. King Street. From makai, our at-risk under ten year's old keiki cross Kapiolani Blvd., Date Street and Kaimuki Avenue.

Complete Streets, SB 718 SD1 will provide a safer route to school for our keiki and an opportunity for our kupuna to have amore active lifestyle. As the transit oriented development project moves forward, having a "Complete Streets" program in place makes good fiscal sense.

Having Complete Streets in place, would require transit oriented development make our multi-modal: complete/connected sidewalks; bicycle lanes; pedestrian activate crosswalks; countdown timers, etc all being less expensive to install at the beginning of a project, than doing a retrofit.

A Complete Street program allows for safer passage, thus more neighbors being able to walk or bicycle their children to school, or to do their daily errands. I believe others will testify to the health benefits and cost savings to our health system that Complete Streets can bring.

According to the State, Department of Transportation, 20 – 26% of our morning traffic is made up of parents taking their children to school. A Complete Streets program offers complete/connected sidewalks, and bicycle lanes and can remove 1 – 3 % of the morning traffic within 5 years, and another 1 – 2 % within ten years of implementation. Using 10,000 cars as 1% (a low estimate) this can have a significant impact on morning traffic. Factor in the transit project ridership and the numbers become even more significant.

To summarize, SB 718 SD1 "Complete Streets" will give us the ability to have more people walk and bicycle safely, receive more physical activity, allow people with disabilities to live at home and enjoy their neighborhood more fully and have unimpeded access to bus stops.

While we support SB 718 SD1, e kala mai, would you please consider making this program mandatory.

Mahalo.

Ron Lockwood, Chair
McCully – Mo'ili'ili N.B. #8
918 University Ave. #204
Honolulu, HI 96826

rnlockwoodohana@yahoo.com



To: Hawaii House Committee on Transportation
Rep. Joseph M. Souki, Chair
Rep. Karen Leinani Awana, Vice Chair

Date: March 23, 2009, 9:00 a.m. Conference Room 309

Re: **SB 718, SD1 Relating to Transportation.**

Chair Souki and Committee Members:

My name is Jackie Boland. I'm an Associate State Director for AARP Hawaii. AARP is a membership organization of people 50 and older with more than 158,000 members in Hawaii.

We support SB 718, which directs the Department of Transportation (DOT) to adopt a Complete Streets policy regarding future transportation policies.

AARP supports Complete Streets policies because they:

- make it safer and more convenient for walking and bicycling,
- accommodate people with disabilities,
- are fiscally responsible, and
- promote physical activity.

All of these factors contribute to an individual's ability to age at home and maintain important social connections that benefit themselves, their families and the community. In fact, we have reason to believe there is public support. In an October 2008 AARP random sample survey of 800 Oahu residents 50 years and older, 88% of respondents said they would support a policy that ensures roads will be designed for all users. Seven in ten (70%) said it is extremely or very important for them to remain in their community as they get older.

While we believe this bill would be greatly strengthened by the removal of Exemption #4 (page 2, line 10), it is our understanding that the Hawaii Department of Transportation is in support of the bill in its current form. Our primary goal is to move this bill forward. We have been in talks with DOT and support their suggested approach of a short-term, collaborative, multi-county task force of transportation officials and advocates that would work together to determine standards and guidelines and to make recommendations for restructuring procedures, re-writing design manuals, and creating new measures to track success. With passage of this bill, AARP is strongly committed to work collaboratively with them in this capacity.

Hawaii is currently the most dangerous state in the country to be a pedestrian over the age of 65. With that population group set to nearly double in the next 22 years, this is of grave concern to AARP Hawaii. We believe our kupuna deserve to live in a place where they have multiple mobility options, including safe walking and public transportation. The passage of SB 718 would be an enormous step in the right direction for creating a planning process that will account for the needs of all of Hawaii's people, regardless of age and ability. **We urge you to pass SB 718.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



3442 Waiialae Ave. #1, Honolulu, HI 96816 808.735.5756 voice 808.735.7989 fax
bicycle@hbl.org www.hbl.org

TO: Chair Joseph M. Souki
Vice-Chair Karen Leinani Awana
House Committee on Transportation

FROM: Mitchell S. Nakagawa, Executive Director

HEARING DATE: Monday, March 23, 2009, 9:00 am

SUBJECT: Support for SB718 SD1, Adopting a Complete Streets Policy

The Hawaii Bicycling League strongly supports SB718 SD1. Bicycle and pedestrian accidents and fatalities, rising physical inactivity epidemics, traffic congestion, and the cost of living are impacting the quality of life in Hawai'i on a massive scale. Redefining street design through Complete Streets policies have been demonstrated to address these issues and by supporting SB718 SD1, we can further a framework for which an improved quality of life for ourselves and future generations is within reach.

SB718 SD1 recognizes that each of our streets has unique needs and sets forth considerations that account for the individuality of our communities. It also recognizes the community value and expertise on Complete Streets, and by establishing a task force, ensures that street design is adhered to in a manner consistent with community priorities.

The Hawaii Bicycling League is a non-profit, membership organization dedicated to promoting cycling for health, recreation and transportation through advocacy, education and events. For over three decades and with 1,000 members, we have been committed to the creation of safe, healthy transportation options that enhance our communities.

With the support of the Committee, we look forward to collaborating with the Department of Transportation, County transportation departments, and additional partners. The encompassing approach of Complete Streets not only ensures the users of our roads benefit substantially, but underscores the commitment to policies that will keep Hawai'i socially and economically vibrant.

Thank you for your attention and opportunity to testify.



Monday, March 23, 2009

Representative Joseph M. Souki, Chair
Representative Karen Leinani Awana, Vice Chair
House of Representatives
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: **SB 718, SD1, Relating to Transportation**

Dear Representative Souki & Members of the House Committee on Transportation:

The Hawaii Public Health Association (HPHA) **strongly supports SB 718, SD1** that directs the Hawaii Department of Transportation, and the respective County Departments of Public Works to adopt a complete streets policy for the safety and convenience of all users of the transportation system in all transportation improvements and new projects, and establishes a temporary taskforce to develop design standards and guidelines that support complete streets.

The Hawaii Public Health Association was founded in 1945. Our membership consists of more than 150 public health professionals working in governmental agencies and non-profit organizations statewide, and our mission is to promote public health in Hawaii through leadership, collaboration, education and advocacy.

Hawai'i needs strong state, county and community collaboration for determining, and ultimately implementing complete streets guided policies and design standards. The taskforce proposed in SB 718, SD1 can provide the vehicle for ensuring that these design standards and guidelines are appropriate for each county and the needs of respective communities. The proposed taskforce also provides the opportunity to lay the foundation for healthy transportation policy that has the public's health and safety foremost in mind. This is especially important considering an estimated one-third of our state's population cannot or chose not to drive, and this includes the most vulnerable which are the children, the elderly, the economically disadvantaged and the disabled members of our community.

There is substantial evidence that links the way we design our transportation systems and communities with the public's health and safety. Studies show residents living in communities with complete streets that service all road users and have convenient access to goods and services, experience the physical and mental health benefits of being more physically active.

The planning and design of transportation systems that do not consider the needs of all road users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, motorists, the disabled and other vulnerable groups mentioned previously, result in reduced opportunities for physical activity, increased levels of air and noise pollution, increased likelihood of traffic injuries, and increased health inequities.

Hawaii needs a Complete Streets transportation policy and taskforce proposed in SB 718, SD1. This bill will help to shape the design and development of healthier communities, and, in so doing, help to assure the conditions in which all Hawai's residents can be healthy and safe. We urge you to support the passage of SB 718, SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Rarick".

James Rarick, President

IPAC

Injury Prevention Advisory Committee

March 23, 2009

The Honorable
Chair Joseph Souki
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representative Souki and Members of the House Transportation Committee,

Subject: **Support for SB 718 SD-1**

The Injury Prevention Advisory Committee strongly supports SB 718 SD-1, which urges the Department of Transportation and the county transportation departments to adopt a "Complete Streets" policy that improves the state and county design standards and guidelines to incorporate pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities to have safe access to our roadways. In addition, the bill includes a task force that would include multi-sector and multi-disciplinary participation from the Federal, State, County, local levels. This form of collaboration is a key strategy in improving Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety listed in the Hawaii Strategic Highway Safety Plan.

Established in 1990, the Injury Prevention Advisory Committee (IPAC) is an advocacy group committed to preventing and reducing injury in Hawai'i. IPAC members include public and private agencies, physicians, and professionals working together to address the eight leading areas of injury that include pedestrians and bicyclists.

The safety and mobility of pedestrians and bicyclists as integral users of the transportation system are significant concerns for Hawai'i. Mobility is an issue for at least one-third of Hawai'i's population who either choose not to drive (pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users) or cannot drive (children, seniors and disabled). According to Emergency Medical Services Data, in 2008, there were 336 non-fatal traffic related bicycle injuries and 398 non-fatal traffic related pedestrian injuries. According to the National Household Travel Survey, in Hawai'i, bicyclists and pedestrians are 11 times more likely die in a traffic related crash than residents who travel by car. Hawai'i's transportation system cannot be considered adequate until it enables all road users to move safely along and across a "Complete Street."

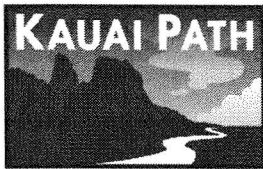
"Complete Streets" policies balance the needs of all road users. "Complete Streets" as an all inclusive policy roadmap can guide Hawai'i in setting a clear course for fully integrating all users in all present and future transportation projects. By following the example of other states that have adopted a "Complete Streets" policy, we have the opportunity to develop a safe, equitable and adequate transportation system for all. We urge you to pass SB 718 SD-1.

Thank you for allowing us to testify.

Sincerely,

Bruce McEwan
Chair
Injury Prevention Advisory Committee

A safe Hawai'i from the mountains to the sea.



P. O. Box 81 :: Lihue, HI 96766
phone 808.639.1018 :: fax 808.822.5075
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ThomasNoyes@hawaiiantel.net

A Project of Garden Island Resource Conservation & Development, Inc.

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
Rep. Joseph M. Souki, Chair
Rep. Karen Leinani Awana, Vice Chair

HEARING DATE: Monday, March 23, 2009
PLACE: Conference Room 309
TIME: 9:00 am

e-mailed to: TRNtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

March 18, 2009

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT SB 718 SD1

Aloha Rep. Souki, Rep. Awana, and Members of the Committee:

Please consider the following factors before deciding on this Complete Streets legislation:

- The Hawai'i Department of Transportation's 2007 Hawaii Fatal Traffic Crashes report states that 20.3% of all traffic related fatalities were pedestrians and 2.9% were bicyclists (source: State of Hawai'i Department of Transportation).
- Approximately 1% of our state's roadway improvement funds are directed to improving pedestrian and bicycling facilities.

Clearly this imbalance must be redressed.

I serve as secretary for the Kauai Path, Inc. board of directors. Kauai Path is a not-for-profit organization committed to ensuring that Hawai'i's built environment is designed and developed to encourage healthy and safe communities. Kauai Path is a member of One Voice for Livable Islands, a coalition convened for the purpose of implementing complete streets concepts.

We strongly support of SB 718 SD1 and urge the House Committee on Transportation to move this bill forward quickly in order to better prepare ourselves for the coming infrastructure improvement dollars that both the Congress and the State will be setting forth.

The Kauai Path board seeks your committee's support SB 718 so that complete streets will become the basis for our State Department of Transportation's program over the coming decade.

Thank you for your time and for diligently reviewing this issue. We look forward to being your partner in leading the way to complete streets through One Voice's participation in the legislative process, and urge your support of this bill today.

Best regards,

Thomas A. Noyes

Kauai residents working together to preserve, protect, and extend access island-wide through the design, implementation, and stewardship of non-vehicular paths.



NPAC

Hawai'i Nutrition and
Physical Activity Coalition

TO: **The Honorable Joseph Souki, Committee Chair
Hawaii House Committee on Transportation**

DATE: **March 23, 2009, 9:00 a.m.**

RE: **Support of SB 718, SD 1 Relating to Transportation.
Directs the department of transportation to adopt a complete streets policy
regarding future transportation projects.**

Written Testimony: **Jennifer Dang, State Director
Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition (NPAC)**

Position: NPAC is a relatively new coalition formed in 2007. Its mission is to improve the quality of life of the residents of Hawaii, and to promote opportunities for physical activity and access to healthy foods.

NPAC strongly supports SB 718, which would establish a Complete Street policy regarding future transportation projects.

Facts:

- The CDC determined that creating and improving places to be active can result in a 25% increase in the percentage of people who exercise at least 3 times a week.
- Older adults living near safe walking and bicycle paths, gyms, parks and recreation centers were more likely to be getting enough physical activity.
- Physical inactivity causes numerous physical and mental health problems and is responsible for an estimated 200,000 deaths per year, and contributes to the obesity epidemic.

Source: www.activelivingresearch.org

Personal Story: Last summer, I had the opportunity to visit the Pacific Northwest as a member of an Over-50's Women's Soccer Team called Holomua. We were the defending champions in our age division at the Veteran's Cup tournament in Bellingham, Washington.

Besides playing 6 game of soccer in 5 days, my teammates and I rented mountain bikes and helmets, and were able to enjoy the miles of beautiful, interurban bicycle paths throughout the city.

A few days later, and many miles away, my daughter and I enjoyed the wonderful bike paths, and pedestrian-friendly community of Sun River, Oregon. Coming home, I immediately purchased a bicycle only to become one of many intimidated and frightened bike rider because of the poor bicycle lanes and ill-planned bike path systems in our city.

One day, I envision Hawaii to be a place where all of our citizens can enjoy our wonderful weather and beautiful scenery and at the same time, improve their health and fitness, and ward off diseases due to physical inactivity. Because we are so far from this vision, I strongly urge the committee to support SB 718, SD1 so that our State and City departments of transportation can begin to look at ways our streets and communities can be safer and exercise-friendlier for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users as well as motorists. Physical inactivity kills people. We must begin by establishing a taskforce which can help move our state towards developing Complete Streets for the people of Hawaii.



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March 19, 2009

Testimony in Support of SB 718 SD1

House Committee of Transportation
Representative Joseph M. Souki, Chair
Representative Karen Leinani Awana, Vice Chair
Monday March 23rd, 2009
Conference Room 309, 9:00AM

Aloha Chairman Souki, Vice Chair Awana and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB718 SD1, establishing a complete streets policy and calling for a joint state/county task force to work on design standards to effectively implement complete streets policy.

It is rare to come across a piece of legislation that can do so much for the future of Hawai'i's economic growth, well-being of the people and environmental sustainability. SB718 SD 1 does this by setting policy that will restore safe, efficient, and equitable mobility for everyone in Hawai'i.

SB718 SD1 will:

- Reduce our energy demand by creating safe and convenient path of travel for non-motorized transportation such as walking and bicycling;
- Improve health status of the people of Hawai'i by creating opportunities for people to walk or bike for short trips and make exercise a part of their daily life;
- Reduce congestion that is the source of significant stress, loss of productivity and green house gas emissions by shifting modes to walking and bicycling, thereby removing cars from the roadway;
- Remove barriers to mobility suffered by the young, old, disabled and poor by providing safe means of walking, bicycling and using public transit along our public roadways.

In addition, the bill calls for a task force made up of county and state representatives that can work together to establish design standards to effectively implement complete streets policy on a consistent basis for communities across the state. Instead of a mandate, this bill is written as a collaborative state and county process to advance our transportation system for the best interests of Hawai'i's people.

We strongly urge the committee to pass SB718 SD1.

Mahalo,

Laura Dierenfield
executive director



We build strong kids
strong families,
strong communities

Monday, March 23, 2009

Representative Joseph M. Souki, Chair
Representative Karen Leinani Awana, Vice Chair
House of Representatives
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 718, SD1, Relating to Transportation

Dear Representative Souki & Members of the House Committee on Transportation:

As the President/CEO of the Maui Family YMCA I strongly support SB 718, SD1 that directs the Hawaii Department of Transportation, and the respective County Departments of Public Works to adopt a complete streets policy for the safety and convenience of all users of the transportation system in all transportation improvements and new projects, and establishes a temporary taskforce to develop design standards and guidelines that support complete streets.

The Maui Family YMCA was founded in 1960. Our membership consists of more than 3,600 Maui citizens that understand the important of healthy lifestyles and how they have a positive impact in our community. It is the mission of the YMCA to enhance the quality of life for families and individuals in our community through programs that foster moral growth and build a healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

Implementing complete streets guided policies and design standards will certainly help the YMCA in achieve its mission of enhancing the quality of life for others. The taskforce proposed in SB 718, SD1 can provide the vehicle for ensuring that these design standards and guidelines are appropriate for each county and the needs of respective communities.

There is substantial evidence that links the way we design our transportation systems and communities with the public's health and safety. Studies show residents living in communities with complete streets that service all road users and have convenient access to goods and services, experience the physical and mental health benefits of being more physically active.

The planning and design of transportation systems that do not consider the needs of all road users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, motorists, the disabled and other vulnerable groups mentioned previously, result in reduced opportunities for physical activity, increased levels of air and noise pollution, increased likelihood of traffic injuries, and increased health inequities.

Hawaii needs a Complete Streets transportation policy and taskforce proposed in SB 718, SD1. This bill will help to shape the design and development of healthier communities, and, in so doing, help to assure the conditions in which all Hawaii's residents can be healthy and safe. On behalf of our 3,608 members, I urge you to support the passage of SB 718, SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Michael Morris
President/CEO

Maui Family YMCA • 250 Kanaloa Avenue • Kahului, HI 96732

Phone: (808) 242-9007 • Fax: (808) 244-6713 • www.mauiyymca.org • Member Agency Maui United Way

YMCA mission: To enhance the quality of life for individuals, families and our community through programs that foster moral growth and build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

From: Windward Ahupua`a Alliance [info@waa-hawaii.org]
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2009 3:11 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: B 718 SD1 - RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

TESTIMONY SUBMITTED BY:

Shannon Wood, *President*
Windward Ahupua`a Alliance/The Climate Project
P.O. Box 6366
Kane`ohe, HI 96744
Website: <http://www.waa-hawaii.org>; E-Mail: <mailto:info@waa-hawaii.org>
Voicemail: 808/247-6366 ext.1#
Cellular: 808/224-4496

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Rep. Joseph Souki, Chair
Rep. Karen Awana, Vice Chair

9 am
Monday, March 23, 2009
Conference Room 309

SB 718 SD1 - RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION
Support With Comments

My name is Shannon Wood, speaking on behalf of the *Windward Ahupua`a Alliance*, a **501c3** Hawai`i non-profit corporation, which was established in July, 2002, to create the **Ko`olau Greenbelt & Heritage Trails System** in order to restore, protect & provide public access to the *mauka* lands as well as to the shoreline along the Windward side of O`ahu from **Makapu`u Point** to **Kawela Bay**.

Over time, however, *WAA*'s mandate has expanded well beyond these vitally important regional issues. **WAA** now works to educate & inform residents, visitors, businesses, policymakers, and the media all across Hawai`i about using **Smart Growth** planning principles which promote sustainability.

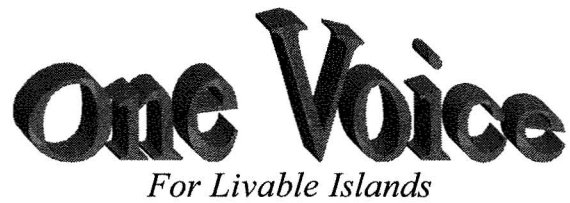
SB 718 SD1 - RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION establishes a new section within **Chapter 286, Hawai`i Revised Statutes** requiring the *State Department of Transportation* to develop policies and to propose statutory changes to support one of **Smart Growth's** key planning principles - transportation systems which put people and not vehicles first..

The current draft calls for setting up a temporary task force to develop recommendations as well as expand the focus state-wide rather than just O`ahu. Public participation is key to creating policies and laws which work.

However, I do have some concerns about the number of proposed task forces & working groups covering all kinds of topics which are still alive and working their way through the *Legislature*. Currently, well over 100 bills are still alive. Each will cost an additional outlay of money ranging from \$100,000 to as much as \$500,000 per year for staff, community outreach & travel.

However, I am not willing to make suggestions as to which ones should be created and which ones should be deferred until the economy gets better.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of **SB 718 SD1 - RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION**.



March 20, 2009

SUPPORT SB 718 SD 1

TO: Representative Joseph M. Souki, Chair
Representative Karen Leinani Awana, Vice Chair

FR: Justin Fanslau, Spokesperson for the One Voice for Livable Islands

House Committee on Transportation
State Capitol Room 309
Monday March 23, 9:00 AM

Subject: **SB 718, SD1, Relating to Transportation**

Dear Representative Souki & Members of the House Committee on Transportation:

My name is Justin Fanslau and I represent the unified voice of the members of the One Voice for Livable Islands coalition. One Voice for a Livable Islands is a broad based coalition of organizations and individuals committed to ensuring that Hawai'i communities are designed and built as healthy communities. OV pursues its mission through public education, advocacy and community mobilization. **We stand in strong support of SB 718 and urge the committee to move this bill forward quickly in order to better prepare ourselves for the coming infrastructure improvement dollars that both the Congress and the State will be setting forth.**

Complete Streets are streets that are planned, designed and built to accommodate all users of the road. The true value of a complete street to a community is that it meets the needs of all our citizens. This includes the daily needs of the large portion of our population that does not possess a driver license and/ or does not have access to a personal motor vehicle. Children, seniors, college students, and families with low incomes must be included in a greater way when we plan to support our communities mobility needs. Complete Streets helps to complete our mobility needs by providing safer and more convenient opportunities for pedestrians, bicyclists and users of the public transportation system.

What are other States Doing?

In 2000, the Federal Government established new guidelines and regulations relating to the needs of all users of the road. "Bicycling and walking facilities will be incorporated into all transportation project unless exceptional circumstances exists." (FHWA 2000 Federal Guidance <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bikeped/design.htm> .

Additionally, Oregon state law requires that footpaths and bicycle trails be included wherever a highway, road or street is being constructed, reconstructed or relocated. California passed an aggressive law in 2008 that requires all general plans to include complete streets policies in their newly adopted general plans. This new law was part of an aggressive strategy pursued by the state to improve air quality, reduce energy consumption and reliance on foreign oil, battle obesity and physical inactivity rates in youth and provide adequate mobility options for the aging population. In order to reach these goals, the State Department of Transportation rewrote its own Deputy Directive to strengthen the need for complete streets projects in all projects the state reviews, manages and contracts.

Why SB 718 and the Federal Money

The One Voice for Livable Islands just returned from an advocacy trip to Washington DC where we participated in the introduction of complete streets legislation. S.R. 584 and H.R. 1443. If passed, these bills would require the states to develop a complete streets policy and link the completion of a comprehensive policy to the receipt of federal safety dollars. Many national leaders pointed to Hawai'i as a model for preparing for this new law and noted that SB 718 will put us at the front of the line.

SB 718 can and should be the new foundation for our State Department of Transportation. Incorporating complete streets methodology, concepts and planning strategies will ensure that our projects meet the needs of more than just motorists, reduce the need for constant repair and maintenance and accommodate the mobility needs of those that don't drive a motor vehicle. Complete Streets certainly provide for multiple payoffs.

Our Coalition

In 2005, the City and County of Honolulu passed Charter Amendment 8 by 77%. Our coalition worked hard to take the message of safer mobility options to the public and the public responded with an overwhelming voice of support. In the last few years we have been building our numbers and learning more about implementing complete streets in State Policy. We are committed to working with the Administration, the Legislature and every department to find creative ways to incorporate healthy mobility options into the way we do all of our business.

The One Voice has worked hard with the Department of Transportation and the Department of Health to fine tune the contents of this bill. We have reached consensus and agree that the development of a comprehensive complete streets state and local policy through the completion of the task force set forth in the bill will result in a safer, healthier and freer Hawai'i.

Thank you for your time and for looking at this issue with a careful and deliberate eye.
We look forward to being your partner and urge your support of this bill today.

Aloha,

Justin Fanslau

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Justin Fanslau". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Lahaina Bypass Now

March 21, 2009

Representative Joseph M. Souki, Chair
Committee on Transportation (TRN)
House of Representatives
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: S.B. #718, SD1 – Relating to Transportation

Aloha Chair Souki and Committee Members,

I, Stacie Thorlakson, on behalf of Lahaina Bypass Now (LBN), support SB 718, SD1 - Relating to Transportation. LBN is a community-based organization dedicated to developing transportation solutions for Maui. In that regard, we collaborate with the entire community, including the State Legislators, Maui Mayor and County Council, State Department of Transportation, local businesses and concerned residents.

One of our primary projects has involved a walk/bike pathway in West Maui that allows residents and visitors a healthier and safer transportation alternative. Enclosed is a copy of our December 2008 Newsletter that highlights our efforts with the Wahikuli Trail. Our other goals for LBN are:

- * Construction of the Lahaina Bypass
- * Development of a network of roads
- * Improved traffic management
- * Increased public transit
- * Encouragement of smart planning
- * Create walking and biking paths
- * Promotion of telecommuting for work and school
- * Government lobbying
- * Community relations

SB 718, SD1 validates our mission to improve our islands transportation options. Hawai'i needs to develop and implement complete streets guided policies and design standards; especially as our population grows and our islands become more sustainable. We encourage you to pass SB 718, SDI and let's all work together to provide a healthier and safer commute in Hawai'i!

Mahalo for your time and please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Stacie Thorlakson,
Government Relations
Lahaina Bypass Now
808.250.3999

505 Front Street, Suite 202A · Lahaina, HI 96761
Telephone: 808-665-8246
www.lahainabypassnow.com

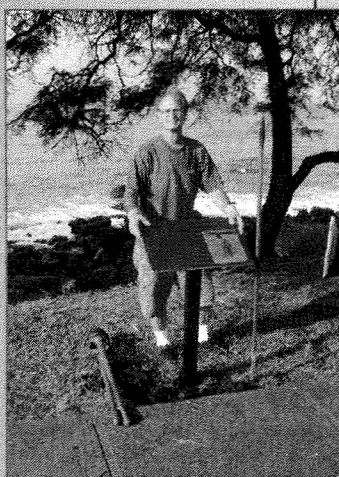
Stroll Along the Coast on the Wahikuli Interpretive Trail

Working in conjunction with County of Maui Department of Parks and Recreation, Lahaina Bypass Now (LBN) enhanced a walking trail along Wahikuli Wayside Park. A grant from Hawaii Tourism Authority to the West Maui Cultural Council through the County of Maui Office of Economic Development provided the interpretative signs for an educational walking experience along the path.

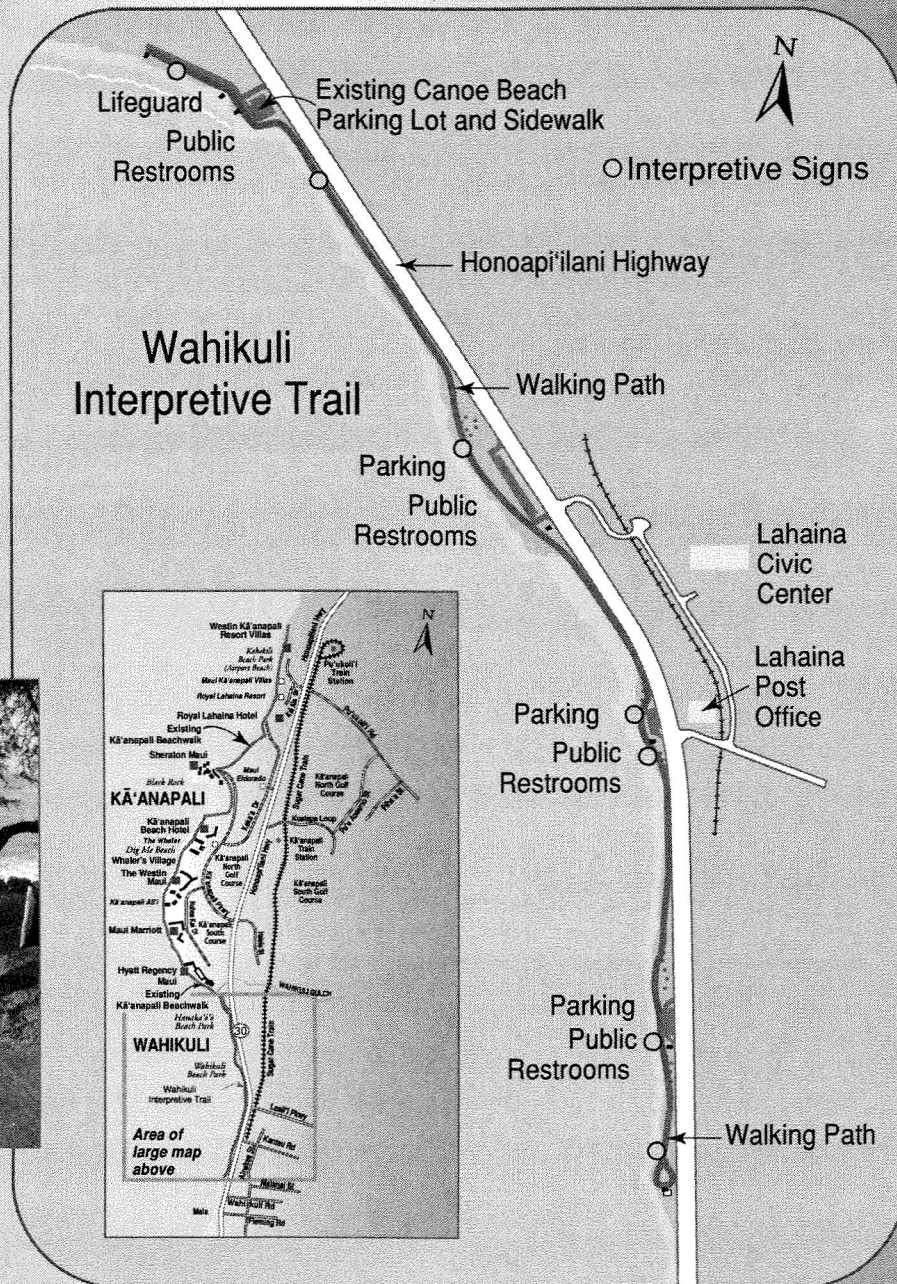
The trail can be accessed from any point along its route at the Wahikuli Wayside Park. LBN's ultimate goal is to work with coastal landowners to extend pathways so pedestrians can walk from Lahaina Town to Kapalua.



LBN's Harold Hyman clears weeds along the Wahikuli Interpretive Trail with other LBN volunteers and Department of Parks and Recreation staff.



Terry Morgan installs signs along the Wahikuli Interpretive Trail.



ABOUT LBN Get Involved! Lahaina Bypass Now (LBN) is a community organization dedicated to developing transportation solutions for Maui. Sign up for our FREE mailing list by visiting www.lahainabypassnow.com. For additional information call 808-667-2516 or email info@lahainabypassnow.com.

awana3-Elenoa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2009 8:51 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: sue.kiang@co.maui.hi.us
Subject: Testimony for SB718 on 3/23/2009 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for TRN 3/23/2009 9:00:00 AM SB718

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: sue kiang
Organization: Nutrition & Physical Activity Coalition
Address: P.O. Box 769 Makawao, Hi 96768
Phone: 808-264-7895
E-mail: sue.kiang@co.maui.hi.us
Submitted on: 3/20/2009

Comments:

As a supporter of providing more opportunities for physical activity, I strongly support this bill. We need complete streets to provide as many transportation options as possible. Having purchased a relatively expensive bike and then finding so few safe places to ride has a major frustration. I have always used bus systems when they are available. This promotes more walking getting from bus stops to where you need to go. All these measures begin with complete streets. Thank you for positive supports to this bill.

awana3-Elenoa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2009 3:29 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: amy.hampton@heart.org
Subject: Testimony for SB718 on 3/23/2009 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for TRN 3/23/2009 9:00:00 AM SB718

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Amy Hampton
Organization: American Heart Association
Address: 95 Mahalani Street #13 Wailuku, HI
Phone: 808-244-7185
E-mail: amy.hampton@heart.org
Submitted on: 3/20/2009

Comments:

Hawaii needs a Complete Streets transportation policy and taskforce proposed in SB 718, SD1. This bill will help to shape the design and development of healthier communities, and, in so doing, help to assure the conditions in which all Hawaii's residents can be healthy and safe. We urge you to support the passage of SB 718, SD1.

awana3-Elenoa

From: James Bell [bellj012@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2009 8:50 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: SUPPORT for SB 718 SD 1

Aloha Chair Souki, Vice Chair Awana and members of the committee

Please support the passage of a complete streets policy for Hawaii. I live in a densely packed neighborhood in Waimea on the Big Island. The developer was not required to put in sidewalks, gutters or bikelanes when this 300+ home development was put in just a few years ago. Our children now either walk in the street with the cars or in the wet grass and mud on the side of the road. Our neighborhood could have been a much better place to live if the state had a policy to promote complete streets.

Mahalo,

Jim Bell
67-1279 Kamaloo Street
Kamuela, Hawaii 96743

FORMAT FOR PERSONAL TESTIMONY:

To: The Honorable Joseph Souki, Committee Chair
Hawaii House Committee on Transportation

Date: March 23, 2009, 9:00 a.m. Conference Room 309(State Captiol)

Re: Support for SB 718, SD1 Relating to Transportation. Directs the department of transportation to adopt a complete streets policy regarding future transportation projects.

Chair Souki and members of the committee, my name is Glenda Duldulao. I am a 22 years old student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 718 SD1 Relating to Transportation.

I strongly support SB 718, which would establish a Complete Streets policy regarding future transportation projects.

I believe that Hawaii needs a complete streets policy that would encourage more walking and bicycling by making roads safe for all users. With our state's current public health epidemic relating to obesity and diabetes and the high number of accidents involving pedestrians and bicyclists, this should be a top priority for everyone.

I personally would like to walk or bike to school. In addition to the health benefits, it would save me time and money as I'm only a 15 minutes walk from campus. However, rather than traveling in this way, I take the bus because I don't feel safe on the road as either a pedestrian or cyclists due to a lack of bike lanes and sidewalks that are too narrow for even two people to walk side by side. When another pedestrian or bicyclist is coming from the opposite direction, people actually have to move into the grassy area or worse into the street!

Our streets are not designed to accommodate convenient access and mobility for all users of the road including pedestrians, transit users, motorist and persons of all ages, and this needs to change. I'm a person who was raised in this state and I'm sometimes disappointed that our vision of paradise seems to stop at the boundaries of tourist areas like Waikiki. Maybe I'm an idealist, but I see so much potential for a healthy, vibrant community that supports the people who live here as much as it supports those who visit. I want to believe that we have the political will to move toward the kind of community we *want* to have rather than simply trying to manage with what we think we might be stuck with.

I urge the committee to support SB 718 as the start of creating a healthier and safer community.

*Representative Joseph Souki, Committee Chair
Representative Karen Leinani Awana, Committee Vice Chair
House Committee on Transportation
Hearing Date: Monday, March 23, 2009, Conference room 309, 9AM*

Re: SUPPORT for SB 718 SD 1

Chair Souki, Vice Chair Awana and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit support for SB 718 SD 1, establishing a Complete Streets policy that will create safety for all roadway users in our communities.

Please help the west coast of Hawaii roads become safer for cyclists and pedestrians.

Please support SB718 SD 1

Mahalo,

*Mark Decker
Kailua Kona*

awana3-Elenoa

From: Connie Estandian [connieestandian@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2009 10:56 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: Jackie E. McCarter Boland; Eileen Mena
Subject: SB718 SD1 Relating to Transportation

Chairman Souki and members of the committee. My name is Connie Estandian and I live on Alii Drive in Kailua-Kona, HI.

Alii Drive is a very popular street for walking and bicycling but is also a very busy street for cars, trucks and scooters. There is a small white bridge on Alii Drive that is very narrow and hardly any room for pedestrians. Cars wheez by and the scary part is most drivers are busy talking to their cell phones that you wonder if they are paying attention that they are coming to a very narrow bridge and that pedestrians and cyclist are sharing this narrow road. To make this bridge safe for pedestrians and cyclist, I urge the transportation department to put a SLOW Sign and a HUMP on the road before the approach to the bridge on both directions to slow down vehicles. Please remember that in 2002 a cyclist was fatally injured on this bridge and we need to prevent another fatal accident especially now that more and more drivers are driving and talking to their cell phones at the same time.

I'm also concern about our highways in Kona, we have no passing lanes. We need passing lanes so that cars that are in a hurry could safely pass slower moving vehicles. Future head-on accidents would be avoided and it will make traveling in our highways a lot safer.

I thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB718 SD1 Relating to Transportation..

Connie Estandian

To: The Honorable Joseph Souki, Committee Chair

Hawaii House Committee on Transportation

Date: March 23, 2009, 9:00 a.m. Conference Room 309 State Capitol

Re: Support for SB 718, SD1 Relating to Transportation. Directs the department of transportation to adopt a complete streets policy regarding future transportation projects.

Chair Souki and members of the committee. My name is Donna Ede. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony concerning SB 719 SD1 Relating to Transportation.

I strongly support SB 718, which would establish a Complete Streets policy regarding future transportation projects.

I am an active kupuna living on Oahu. I have the good fortune to be able to reflect on the past 6 ½ decades of development in Hawaii. Oh, if we had only done things right the first time.

There are numerous kupuna like myself, who walk each day to keep healthy so that we are able to care for our personal and community ohana. Many of us do not have safe communities for our walking, and many of us are injured or die each year because of unsafe streets. I lament again, *if only my generation had done things right the first time.*

You our government leaders have an opportunity to pono our communities. Do not make the same mistakes my generation did. Look solidly at the future and do not turn your backs on the basic foundation for progressive communities which are safety and health. These basic foundations are found in the Complete Streets structure.

What a wonderful opportunity all of you in the legislature have. Think of the legacy you all will leave your children's children. Do the right thing today, through establishing a Complete Streets policy for all future transportation projects.

I urge the committee to support SB 718.

awana3-Elenoa

From: Robin Elcock [relcock001@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2009 3:04 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: Jackie McCarter Boland
Subject: SB 718

Testimony in support of SB 718.
March 23 at 9 a.m.
Transportation Committee.

Dear Senator Souki and members of the committee,

My Name is Margaret Elcock and I live in the Keaukaka district of Hilo. I am the Vice President of the AARP Hilo Chapter and Vice President Of the Lelewi Home owners Association. I am 69 years old and my husband will be 71 in April. We live on a street which borders the ocean with six Beach Parks. It is a beautiful area but there are no side walks and the bike path is narrow and ends at our home. The Hele-on bus does not run at the week -end, which is the time that the area is most crowded. The road is a 30 mph area but most cars do at least 50 mph. There have been many car accidents on this road. We drive 3 miles each way to walk in a safe park in town. We at least, need side walks and traffic enforcement. I hope your bill will also help Hawaii Island.

Yours Sincerely,
Margaret Elcock

awana3-Elenoa

From: Gerald Gruber [GeraldGruber@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2009 2:59 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: Complete Streets

*Representative Joseph Souki, Committee Chair
Representative Karen Leinani Awana, Committee Vice Chair
House Committee on Transportation
Hearing Date: Monday, March 23, 2009, Conference room 309, 9AM*

Re: SUPPORT for SB 718 SD 1

Chair Souki, Vice Chair Awana and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit support for SB 718 SD 1, establishing a Complete Streets policy that will create safety for all roadway users in our communities.

- Hawaii is currently one of the most dangerous states to be a pedestrian or bicyclists. Complete Streets provide the design standards that allow cars, bicyclists and pedestrians to safely travel within the public roadway.*
- More than 1 in 3 people in Hawaii do not drive due to age (too young, too old), disability or income level. Complete Streets policy will provide greater mobility choices for those who do not drive by providing safe and convenient facilities for walking, bicycling and using public transit.*
- Complete Streets policy provides the necessary support our transportation agencies need to complete long over due improvements to our transportation system with a balanced and multi-modal approach.*
- Complete Streets policy will enable our kids to walk and bike to school, elderly to walk to the store and families to live active, healthy lives in their own communities.*

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to vote in support of SB718 SD 1

Mahalo,

*Gerald A. Gruber
76-6397 Pualani St.
Kailua Kona, HI 96740*

Thank You for speaking up for walking and bicycling on Hawaii`i island.

awana3-Elenoa

From: Daniel Hodel [daniel.hodel@earthlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2009 9:11 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: SUPPORT for SB 718 SD 1

Representative Joseph Souki, Committee Chair Representative Karen Leinani Awana, Committee Vice Chair House Committee on Transportation Hearing Date: Monday, March 23, 2009, Conference room 309, 9AM
Subject: SUPPORT for SB 718 SD 1

Chair Souki, Vice Chair Awana and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a message in support of SB 718 SD 1, establishing a Complete Streets policy that will create safety for ALL roadway users in Hawaii.

I'm sure many people have already written to you to discuss the objective facts, ie, the extraordinarily high amount of pedestrian and cyclist deaths and injuries in Hawaii, and the growing need for alternate modes of transportation, not just for those who require it -- such as children and the elderly -- but for all of us.

However, there is another strong reason that I notice almost daily in Kona. Whenever the county and state make changes to highways, cyclists and pedestrians almost never figure in the construction planning. And often the completed work leaves us with narrower and less useful bike and pedestrian shoulders. In other words, we are marginalized, a mere afterthought if given any consideration at all.

I could list a number of recent major and minor highway "improvement" projects here in West Hawaii where this has been the case. Sad to say, I can not think of a single project where cyclists and pedestrians have been treated decently during construction, and I can only think of one highway project where we actually came out ahead once it was done.

I am hopeful that a Complete Streets policy will cause highway planners to start thinking about the broader implications of their actions. I strongly urge you to vote in support of SB718 SD 1

Mahalo,

Daniel Hodel
76-897 Hualalai Road
Kailua Kona, HI 96740

To: The Honorable Joseph Souki, Committee Chair <Sent via eMail>
Hawaii House Committee on Transportation

Date: March 18, 2009

Re: Support for SB 718, SD1 Relating to Transportation. Directs the department of transportation to adopt a complete streets policy regarding future transportation projects.

Chair Souki and members of the committee. My name is Douglas J. Halbert. I reside at 518 Hilinai St., Wailuku, HI 96793. My phone number is (808) 268-9172. I am 77 years old and have been a resident of Wailuku for the last eleven years. I ask that you accept this written testimony in lieu of my personal appearance at the hearings as it is not financially feasible for me to attend. I do thank you for this opportunity to provide my views on SB 719 SD1 relating to Transportation.

I strongly support SB 718, which would establish a Complete Streets policy regarding future transportation projects.

- The County of Honolulu has taken the lead in Hawaii by establishing a local "Complete Streets" policy. If such a policy is good for one county, it must be good for all counties. You can save the taxpayers a lot of money by adopting a State-wide policy that will be a benefit to all.
- As a senior, I and my fellow seniors need a safe place to walk. As we get older we need the exercise. The exercise not only benefits us physically but it saves money. If we do not have sidewalks and protected crosswalks, we are in danger of injury. We are just not as fast as we used to be when it comes to recognizing danger and getting out of the way.

I will not consume any more of your time. I just want to be sure you and your colleagues know that I, and many of your constituents whom I know, request your leadership and support in the passage of this legislation.


Douglas J. Halbert

Representative Joseph Souki, Committee Chair
Representative Karen Leinani Awana, Committee Vice Chair
House Committee on Transportation

Hearing Date: Monday, March 23, 2009, Conference room 309, 9AM

Re: SUPPORT for SB 718 SD 1

Chair Souki, Vice Chair Awana and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit support for SB 718 SD 1, establishing a Complete Streets policy that will create safety for all roadway users in our communities.

Hawaii is currently one of the most dangerous states to be a pedestrian or bicyclists. Complete Streets provide the design standards that allow cars, bicyclists and pedestrians to safely travel within the public roadway.

Complete Streets policy provides the necessary support our transportation agencies need to complete long over due improvements to our transportation system with a balanced and multi-modal approach.

Complete Streets policy will enable our kids to walk and bike to school, elderly to walk to the store and families to live active, healthy lives in their own communities.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to vote in support of SB718 SD 1

Mahalo,

Kelly Hoyle
Kamuela, HI

From: Roberta Hickman [rohickman@alohabroadband.com]
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2009 7:09 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: Support for SB 718 SD1

Representative Joseph Souki, Committee Chair
Representative Karen Leinani Awana, Committee Vice Chair
House Committee on Transportation
Hearing Date: Monday, March 23, 2009, Conference room 309, 9AM
Re: SUPPORT for SB 718 SD 1

Chair Souki, Vice Chair Awana and members of the committee,
Thank you for the opportunity to submit support for SB 718 SD 1, establishing a Complete Streets policy that will create safety for all roadway users in our communities.

- Hawaii is currently one of the most dangerous states to be a pedestrian or bicyclist. Complete Streets provides the design standards that will allow cars, bicyclists and pedestrians to safely travel within the public roadway.
- More than 1 in 3 people in Hawaii do not drive due to age (too young, too old), disability or income level. Complete Streets policy will provide greater mobility choices for those who do not drive by providing safe and convenient facilities for walking, bicycling and using public transit.
- In our society, there is an increasing trend toward inactivity and obesity. Complete Streets will allow better access for people interested in an active and healthy lifestyle.
- Complete Streets policy provides the necessary support our transportation agencies need to complete long over due improvements to our transportation system with a balanced and multi-modal approach.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to vote in support of SB 718 SD 1.

Mahalo,
Roberta Hickman
Ocean View, Hawaii

I am using the Free version of [SPAMfighter](#).
We are a community of 6 million users fighting spam.
SPAMfighter has removed 760 of my spam emails to date.
The Professional version does not have this message.

TO: Committee on Transportation

DATE: Saturday, March 21, 2009

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

HEARING: Monday, March 23, 2009, 9 a.m.

SUBJECT: SB 718, SD1 Complete Streets - Support

Aloha Chair Souki, Vice Chair Awana and Committee Members,

For far too long our goal has been to try to move as many vehicles to their destinations as possible. Obesity rates and other health ailments are growing in all age groups and are especially alarming for children and teenagers. We need to make it easier for people to be active. Changing our goal to move as many *people* to their destinations as efficiently as possible solves many of the concerns today - traffic congestion, pollution and health. This bill allows us to do that.

I urge you to vote yes for this bill. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

awana3-Elenoa

From: Jon Jokiel [jonjokiel@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2009 6:57 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: Support for SB 718 SD 1

Representative Joseph Souki, Committee Chair
Representative Karen Leinani Awana, Committee Vice Chair
House Committee on Transportation
Hearing Date: Monday, March 23, 2009, Conference room 309, 9AM
Re: SUPPORT for SB 718 SD 1

Dear Chair Souki, Vice Chair Awana and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit support for SB 718 SD 1, establishing a Complete Streets policy that will create safety for all roadway users in our communities.

More than 1 in 3 people in Hawaii do not drive due to age (too young, too old), disability or income level. Complete Streets policy will provide greater mobility choices for those who do not drive by providing safe and convenient facilities for walking, bicycling and using public transit.

Complete Streets policy will enable our kids to walk and bike to school, elderly to walk to the store and families to live active, healthy lives in their own communities.
For these reasons, I strongly urge you to vote in support of SB718 SD 1

I bike or run to work everyday and I would like to see safer streets so others can get places without the use of an automobile as I do.

Mahalo,
Jon Jokiel
73-1029 Ahulani St.
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740



EMAILING FOR THE GREATER GOOD

[Join me](#)

awana3-Elenoa

From: Veritas43@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2009 10:54 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: (no subject)

Hawaii is currently one of the most dangerous states to be a pedestrian or bicyclists. Complete Streets provide the design standards that allow cars, bicyclists and pedestrians to safely travel within the public roadway.

- *More than 1 in 3 people in Hawaii do not drive due to age (too young, too old), disability or income level. Complete Streets policy will provide greater mobility choices for those who do not drive by providing safe and convenient facilities for walking, bicycling and using public transit.*
- *Complete Streets policy provides the necessary support our transportation agencies need to complete long over due improvements to our transportation system with a balanced and multi-modal approach.*

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to vote in support of SB 718 SD 1

Make Hawaii a destination for families that Bike for health. The profit to the state would be worthwhile as tourism would increase as Bikers would ride from city to city and stay in different cities.

Thank You Tony & Linda Keeling

75-5888 Alii Drive Kailua-Kona HI 96740

A Good Credit Score is 700 or Above. See yours in just 2 easy steps!

awana3-Elenoa

From: Diane Logsdon [kuladiane@earthlink.net]
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2009 3:34 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: Testimony on SB718m SD1

To: The Honorable Joseph Souki, Committee Chair
Hawaii House Committee on Transportation
Date: March 23, 2009, 9:00 a.m. Conference Room __ (State Captiol)

Re: Support for SB 718, SD1 Relating to Transportation. Directs the department of transportation to adopt a complete streets policy regarding future transportation projects.

Chair Souki and members of the committee. My name is Diane Logsdon. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 719 SD1 Relating to Transportation.

I strongly support SB 718, which would establish a Complete Streets policy regarding future transportation projects.

It is clear that Hawaii's roads are primarily designed for cars. As a non-driver, I am required to ride the MEO bus and to walk places. There are very few sidewalks on Maui, as you know, and walking can be dangerous.

If other people are like me, they are finding it hard to get motivated to get exercise. The dangerous design of our neighborhoods just makes it harder. This bill could certainly help matters and get things going in the right direction. Therefore, I urge the committee to support SB 718.

Mahalo and Aloha,

Diane Logsdon
267 Kulamanu Circle
Kula, Hawaii 96790
Phone (808)878-3448

awana3-Elenoa

From: SkiprJohn@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2009 11:40 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: My Support for SB 718 SD 1

Representative Joseph Souki, Committee Chair
Representative Karen Leinani Awana, Committee Vice Chair
House Committee on Transportation
Hearing Date: Monday, March 23, 2009, Conference room 309, 9AM

Subj: SUPPORT for SB 718 SD 1

Chair Souki, Vice Chair Awana and members of the committee,

I support SB 718 SD 1, establishing a Complete Streets policy that will create safety for all roadway users in our communities.

- Health of our citizens is of prime importance and encouraging walking and biking to and from local establishments should be of prime consideration. A safe environment for these activities is a must. Complete Streets policy will enable our kids to walk and bike to school, elderly to walk to the store and families to live active, healthy lives in their own communities.

For this reason, I strongly urge you to vote in support of SB718 SD 1

Kind regards,

John M. Luchau
HCR 2 Box 6661
Keaau, HI 96749
808 982-5959

A Good Credit Score is 700 or Above. See yours in just 2 easy steps!

To: The Honorable Joseph Souki, Committee Chair
Hawaii House Committee on Transportation

Date: March 23, 2009, 9 AM Conference Room 309 (State Capitol)

Re: Support of SB 718, SD1 Relating to Transportation. Directs the department of transportation to adopt a complete streets policy regarding future transportation projects.

Chair Souki and members of the committee, my name is Teresita P. Lilker. I am a senior citizen living in Waikiki. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 718, SD1, relating to transportation.

I strongly support SB 718, which would establish a Complete Streets Policy regarding future transportation needs.

Because of my apartment's great location, I am in close proximity to church, stores, beach, restaurants, entertainment, etc. so I have chosen not to own a car and instead adopt a healthier lifestyle. I use the city's excellent bus system and walk everywhere. Unfortunately, as a pedestrian, I've had many close calls with cars. I consider it lucky that I have not been injured or killed. Some of my friends have not been so lucky. In December of 2005, a friend was struck while crossing the street to go to the bus stop on her way to work at my gym. She died a week later at Queen's Hospital. Last year, a fellow volunteer was hit in a crosswalk on King Street. Our city's dangerous pedestrian conditions are hitting too close to home.

Nowadays, people are living longer and seniors like me are working to stay active, fit, and connected to the community so we can be as healthy as possible and maintain our independence. We need a safer environment in our state for people as they grow older. I believe that Hawaii needs a Complete Streets Policy that will create safe walking & bicycling facilities for our kupuna & keikis and that all future transportation plans must include and balance the needs of all users and not plan just for cars.

I urge the committee to support SB 718 as the start of creating a healthier community and a better and safer Hawaii.

Mahalo,

Mrs. Teresita P. Lilker
1860 Ala Moana Blvd #1007
Honolulu, HI 96815

awana3-Elenoa

From: Eileen Mena [eileenpmena@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2009 3:45 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: Support SB 718 - Complete Streets

Honorable Joseph Souki, Committee Chair and members of the committee.

My name is Eileen Mena and I live in Kailua Kona. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SF 718 SD1 Relating to Transportation.

I live off of Highway 190 which is a high traffic road with only one passing lane between downtown Kona and Ka'iminani Dr. I travel this highway at least once a day. We need more lanes for slower traffic so those in a hurry could pass safely. There are too many crosses and flowers along the road.

I strongly urge the committee to support SB 718 SD1, which would establish a Complete Street policy regarding future transportation.

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From: Michele Nihipali [nihipalim001@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2009 12:47 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: Please pass SB718

Dear Transportation Committee Members:

Please vote yes on SB718 for "complete streets." Many streets in Hawaii do not have safe access for bicycles, pedestrians or people with disabilities. I try to walk but many intersections, even with crosswalks are dangerous to get across safely. Please take the first step in making Hawaii's streets more accessible to those who want to promote a healthier environment.

Thank you,
Michele Nihipali
54-074 A Kam Hwy
Hauula, HI 96717

awana3-Elenoa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2009 11:56 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: TropicalHawaiiUSA@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB718 on 3/23/2009 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for TRN 3/23/2009 9:00:00 AM SB718

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Christine Olah
Organization: Individual
Address: P.O.Box 3294 Honolulu, HI 96801
Phone: (808) 282 4010
E-mail: TropicalHawaiiUSA@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/22/2009

Comments:

Most Honorable Representative Joseph M. Souki, Chair, Transportation Committee, House of Representatives

March 22, 2009

Re: Support for SB 718, SD1 Relating to Transportation

Chair Souki and members of the committee. My name is Christine Olah. I am a member of AARP and a resident of Honolulu. Thank you for the opportunity to send testimony in support of SB 718, SD1.

I strongly support SB718, SD1, which would establish a Complete Streets policy regarding future transportation projects.

Hawaiian weather gives us an opportunity to embrace transportation methods that promote ecologically smart choices. Living close to a city center, citizens want to reduce their carbon imprint by walking, biking, and using electric mopeds to get to their destination. With complete streets young and old can use the road safely and share it with car, bus, and truck traffic too.

I urge the committee to support SB718, SD1 to move Hawaii into a more sustainable state.

Representative Joseph Souki, Committee Chair

Representative Karen Leinani Awana, Committee Vice Chair

House Committee on Transportation

Hearing Date: Monday, March 23, 2009, Conference room 309, 9AM

Re: SUPPORT for SB 718 SD 1

Chair Souki, Vice Chair Awana and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit support for SB 718 SD 1, establishing a Complete Streets policy that will create safety for all roadway users in our communities.

I am a long-time member of the County of Hawaii's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee and have worked with this committee under Mayor Kim and earlier with Mayor Yamashiro's administration.

I believe the Complete Streets Bill will help the County of Hawaii with much needed direction and guidance in making very necessary improvements in our county roadways to accommodate all users.

The State Highways have improved dramatically over the years. However, at the county level progress in establishing paved shoulders which are suitable for bicyclists and pedestrians is frustratingly slow. To my knowledge the number of miles of new bicycle lanes established by the County of Hawaii approaches ZERO over the last 8 years.

One small example: Waianuenue Road up to Hilo Hospital recently has had paved shoulders added but, only for shoulder stabilization to prevent water erosion. Several small sections of shoulder along either side of this route were left UNPAVED making this a discontinuous improvement, and therefore less than what is needed to encourage bicycling and walking. Yet Waianuenue is identified on Bike Plan Hawaii as one of the routes that requires upgrading to accommodate bicyclists (and pedestrians).

For these, and many other reasons, I strongly urge you to vote in support of SB718 SD 1

Mahalo, Ron Reilly

19-4181 Anuhea Circle Drive, Volcano, HI 96785

(808) 967-8603

To: The Honorable Joseph Souki, Committee Chair
Hawaii House Committee on Transportation

Date: March 23, 2009, 9:00 a.m. Conference Room 309 (State Capitol)

Re: Support for SB 718, SD1 Relating to Transportation. Directs the department of transportation to adopt a complete streets policy regarding future transportation projects.

Chair Souki and members of the committee. My name is Jessica Schroff. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 718 SD1 Relating to Transportation.

I strongly support SB 718, which would establish a Complete Streets policy regarding future transportation projects.

As a new University student living in Manoa, I was shocked at the lack of sidewalks and bike paths for commuters. After moving to Manoa, I wanted to buy a bike and use it as my main mode of transportation, but I quickly realized how unfriendly Hawaii's streets are to bikers. Instead, I walk to school every day from my house and am constantly forced to walk in the street because there are no sidewalks. Since my classes end at night, my walk home is made even more dangerous, and I am always nervous that a driver will fail to see me.

Living in Hawaii, I love being outside as much as possible. I enjoy running and biking, but I feel that my activities are limited because the streets are so unsafe. As a member of the community who drives, takes the bus, and walks, I have seen firsthand how crucial a complete streets design is to Hawaii. The streets need to be made safe for all users. I therefore urge the committee to support SB 718.

FROM: Ruby K. Silva, member of AARP and resident of Waianae

TO: Committee on Transportation, House of Representatives

HEARING

DATE/TIME: Monday, March 23, 2009; at 9:00 a.m.

BILL: **SB 718**

NUMBER OF COPIES: Five (5) including original, Room 403 in the State Capitol

Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Chair
And Members of
Committee on Transportation
House of Representatives
State of Hawaii

Dear Sirs and Ladies:

I think you are all familiar with Farrington Highway which is the only roadway in and out of the Leeward Coast. We are all aware that it has been determined to be the most dangerous roadway on Oahu. The traffic is horrendous everyday, including the great number of big trucks, tractor trailers, etc. We are fortunate that THE BUS provides us their service, so this is an additional consideration of the many vehicles on Farrington.

The majority of residents on this coast feel we need a better and safer highway. We need the street completed in many areas with adequate walkways/sidewalks (without the utility pole smack dab in the middle of the sidewalk) so that wheelchairs or motorized chairs can be served. We need more bikeways. There are some of them now, but that is also in line with the bus stops so they are more for the busses' use than the bikers. Frankly we need everything for a "complete" and safe street to accommodate all of us - youngsters and senior citizens - who live here.

Thank you for your consideration and support of SB 718.

Aloha,

Ruby K. Silva
Tel.: (808) 696-2255

From: poink9@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2009 5:29 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: Safe Streets

We just wanted to voice our support for the bill pending before the legislature, SB 718 SD 1, establishing a Complete Streets policy that will create safety for all roadway users in our communities. We have been residents of the Big Island for over ten years and are avid pedestrians and bicyclists. Every time we do this we feel as if we are taking our lives into our own hands. Recently Susi had a very bad spill on her bicycle as she was avoiding an automobile which meant many weeks in the hospital, physical therapy, and caused her to ultimately have to leave her job. I am a respiratory therapist at North Hawaii Community Hospital and have seen many, many instances of unnecessary and tragic injuries and deaths caused by poor or nonexistent bike paths and pedestrian walkways. Please do anything you can to make our roads safe.

Sincerely,

Tom Pinkert
Susi Schneider

Job Hunting? [Start with the companies that posted job openings this week.](#)

awana3-Elenoa

From: Westervelt, Bradley [bwestervelt@co.hawaii.hi.us]
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2009 2:22 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: Laura Dierenfield
Subject: Testimony for SB 718 SD 1

Streets for people!

This bill will address the long neglected pedestrian and cyclist.

Please support SB 718 SC 1 so we may have safer and friendlier byways for those who choose not to use internal combustion engine driven transit.

Sincerely,

Bradley Westervelt
Legislative Assistant, District 6
Councilman Guy Enriques
bwestervelt@co.hawaii.hi.us
808-961-8026

awana3-Elenoa

From: Judy Ann Williams [judyann_williams@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2009 8:22 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: SB 718 SD 1 Support

Chair Souki, Vice Chair Awana and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit support for SB 718 SD 1, establishing a Complete Streets policy that will create safety for all roadway users in our communities.

- *Hawaii is currently one of the most dangerous states to be a pedestrian or bicyclists. Complete Streets provide the design standards that allow cars, bicyclists and pedestrians to safely travel within the public roadway.*
- *Complete Streets policy will enable our kids to walk and bike to school, elderly to walk to the store and families to live active, healthy lives in their own communities.*
-

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to vote in support of SB718 SD 1

Mahalo,

Judy Williams
PO 3480
Kailua Kona, HI 96745
808.269.2408

Runner, Bicyclist, Mother of preteens, and careful driver!!

Mahalo for your time!

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awana3-Elenoa

From: Eliot Greenleaf [elmgreen11@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2009 10:54 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: cyclists unwelcome in Hawaii

I rode a bike for decades on the mainland west coast. I've been shocked and dismayed that Hawaii roads don't have bike lanes and that bike racks are practically nonexistent anywhere.

Eliot Greenleaf

Dear Representative Joseph Souki;

My name is Anastasia, and I am 9
years old. I strongly support this complete streets bill.
I live in Waikiki and I go to school at
Ala Wai. I can't ride
my bike to school because it is scary to ride on
the road.

If we had Complete Streets, I could safely walk or ride
my bike to school.

I would like to ride my bicycle to school because
it is fun, it is more faster, because I live
really close.

Thank you for Making the road safer.

Sincerely,

Anastasia
Mily
lorie
Veg

3/20/09

awana3-Elenoa

From: Delora Hutton [bunnnybooo@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2009 8:10 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: donhutton@hotmail.com
Subject: Rep. Joseph Souki, Chair of Complete Streets

Our names are Delora Hutton and Florence Ward, and we live in Waianae. Waianae, as you may be aware, has neither safe nor completed streets. Farrington Highway, the main street through Waianae, does not completely have curbs, sidewalks, bicycle paths, enough pedestrian crossways to encourage pedestrians to not jay-walk, nor left turn signal at the stop light at the busiest intersection. A stop light and left turn signal would be a blessing at any of the high traffic areas such as McDonalds, and Tamuras.

During the busy times of the day, the street is a melange of cars and people, a dangerous situation for all.

Curbs and sidewalks would also be desirable along Kili Drive, as many walkers use that street to walk to and from the beach. Curbs and sidewalks all along the way to the beach would also be nice, Even bicycle paths.

Please do what you can to complete the streets in Waianae.

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awana3-Elenoa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2009 6:40 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: dotaloha@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB718 on 3/23/2009 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for TRN 3/23/2009 9:00:00 AM SB718

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: dot buck
Organization: Individual
Address: 101 b ihea pl pukalani
Phone: 572 4108
E-mail: dotaloha@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/19/2009

Comments:

please pass any and all legislation to create pathway, BIKE ways safe for kids and adults, and walking spaces, trees, and planted areas and Benches especially sb 718

awana3-Elenoa

From: donhutton@hotmail.com
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2009 7:37 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: Attention: Rep. Joseph Souki, Chair of Complete Streets

Honorable Representative Joseph Souki,

I realize that the state has a budget crisis now, however it is my opinion that we should consider pedestrian safety as a top priority. There are many traffic and pedestrian dangers.

One area is where the pedestrian barrier along the Leeward Farrington Highway has several places where poles restrict wheelchair access which is dangerous for the disabled as they must go into the traffic lane. Please consider rectifying this hazardous discrepancy.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Hutton

awana3-Elenoa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2009 6:32 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: honolulujd@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB718 on 3/23/2009 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for TRN 3/23/2009 9:00:00 AM SB718

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: George Massengale
Organization: Individual
Address: 4340 Pahao Street Honolulu, HI 96816
Phone: 808-721-9842
E-mail: honolulujd@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/23/2009

Comments:
LATE TESTIMONY