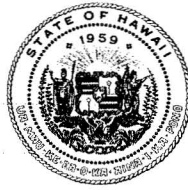


LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



BRENNON T. MORIOKA
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JIRO A. SUMADA

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

IN REPLY REFER TO:

April 20, 2009

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 50

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Senate Concurrent Resolution 50 expresses legislative support for the Ane Keohokalole Highway extension, Mid-level Road, in the county of Hawai'i.

The Department of Transportation supports this resolution.

We believe that Ane Keohokalole Highway will provide an alternative, parallel route that will reduce traffic congestion currently occurring on Queen Kaahumanu Highway and Mamalahoa Highway. Additionally, the Ane Keohokalole Highway will provide direct access to two major affordable housing projects in the area and simultaneously create needed jobs for people on the island of Hawai'i.

Linda Lingle
GOVERNOR



KAREN SEDDON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
FAX: (808) 587-0600

IN REPLY REFER TO

Statement of
Karen Seddon
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

April 20, 2009, 10:15 a.m.
Room 309, State Capitol

In consideration of
S.C.R. 50

**EXPRESSING LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT FOR THE ANE KEOHOKALO LE HIGHWAY
EXTENSION, MID-LEVEL ROAD, IN THE COUNTY OF HAWAII**

The HHFDC **supports** S.C.R. 50. The Ane Keohokalole Highway extension is an important infrastructure improvement that will aid in the development of over 1100 affordable homes being planned in the HHFDC's Keahuolu development in North Kona, Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

William P. Kenoi
Mayor



William T. Takaba
Managing Director

Walter K.M. Lau
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i

891 Ululani Street • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-3982 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553
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(808) 329-5226 • Fax (808) 326-5663

April 20, 2009

The Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Chair
And Members of the House Committee on Transportation,
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: Testimony in Support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 50
Hearing Monday, April 20, 2009, at 10:15 a.m., Conference Room 309

Honorable Chair Souki and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to offer our strong support for the Ane Keohokalole Highway, also known as the Mid-Level road, a project that is part of the Hawai'i County General Plan and the Community Development Plan.

This project will generate both short-term and long-term employment, and is part of a cooperative effort by the County of Hawai'i, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, the state Department of Transportation and the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

The Ane Keohokalole Highway would relieve congestion on the crowded Queen Ka'ahumanu Highway by linking Henry Street, Palani Road and the Kealakehe Parkway. When fully completed, it will also link major facilities such as the county's West Hawai'i Civic Center, the Kona airport, the planned community college campus in Kona, and Kealakehe High School.

It would also provide access to a 300-acre state parcel at Keahuolu designated for a badly needed state affordable housing project, and provide access for additional development of the Villages of La'i 'Opua on Hawaiian Home Lands. The HHL property is slated for more than 700 homes, and about 2,200 homes are planned on the state lands.

We ask the committee to support this project, which will be of enormous benefit to all of West Hawai'i. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

William P. Kenoi
MAYOR



Committee on Transportation
House of Representatives
April 20, 2009
SCR 50
(Testimony in strong support)

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, my name is Jon Wallenstrom, and I am the Senior Vice President/Chief Operating Officer for Forest City Hawaii. As the selected developer for the 272 acre HHFDC Keahuolu Project, Forest City strongly supports SCR 50. The Ane Keohokalole Highway extension, mid-level road, in the County of Hawaii will provide an important arterial corridor for West Hawaii and will assist Forest City in providing much needed affordable housing for the region.

Forest City envisions developing a bold and high-quality residential village that will foster a socio-economic balance for West Hawaii. We intend to create an affordable friendly community for residents to work, play, and live. Forest City is working closely with the HHFDC, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, and our neighboring stakeholders to cooperatively create a community that builds on improvements in the area and supports a cohesive and sustainable Ahupua'a. The 272-acre site is located adjacent to Kailua-Kona's high population and within the County's Community Development Plan Urban Area.

Projects such as Forest City's proposed community and our neighbor the DHHL community at Laiopua, will benefit from the Ane Keohokalole Highway Extension. The quality of life for current and future residents of West Hawaii will be impacted by the degree to which important infrastructure is created in the region. The feasibility of building affordable housing is directly related to legislative support for infrastructure projects and we are encouraged by this strong expression of support.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

(For more information, please call Linda Chu Takayama, 545-3060)



Testimony of C. Mike Kido
External Affairs
The Pacific Resource Partnership

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

SCR 50 – EXPRESSING LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT FOR
THE ANE KEOHOKALO LE HIGHWAY EXTENSION, MID-LEVEL ROAD, IN THE
COUNTY OF HAWAII
Monday, April 20, 2009
10:15 a.m.
Conference Room 309

Chair Souki, Vice Chair Awana and Members of the Committee on Transportation:

My name is C. Mike Kido, External Affairs of the Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP), a labor-management consortium representing over 240 signatory contractors and the Hawaii Carpenters Union.

Pacific Resource Partnership strongly supports SCR 50, Expressing legislative support for the Ane Keohokalole Highway extension, mid-level road, in the County of Hawaii.

The senate concurrent resolution states the Ane Keohokalole Highway extension, mid-level road as a priority project that will help reduce traffic congestion and provide access to two major affordable housing projects, which would allow residents to purchase homes being developed. Support of the highway extension together with the housing projects would provide much needed jobs and affordable housing during this tough economic time.

PRP strongly support SCR 50 and respectfully ask for your consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.