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IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

February 9, 2009

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HOUSE BILL NO. 865, RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **opposes** this bill because we believe that the bill is not necessary and it may, in fact, jeopardize the DOT's entitlement to federal funds.

For transportation planning purposes, the DOT is required to follow federal requirements and procedures. These federal requirements and procedures prescribe a planning process which the DOT is mandated to follow or risk losing federal funding. Moreover, this planning process is required for all of DOT's transportation master planning projects, regardless of whether they are short-term, mid-term, or long-term. One of the key components in this federally-mandated planning process is the requirement that the DOT consult with the various County transportation officials. Another key component requires the DOT to consider and use the County general and transportation related plans.

The DOT already does both of these requirements. As a general practice, the DOT regularly consults with the County transportation officials and consistently considers the County's general and transportation related plans. By partnering actively and directly with the Counties, the DOT has avoided and minimized both real and potential conflicts with the Counties. Accordingly, the DOT will continue this long-standing practice in all of its upcoming undertakings. For this reason, we feel that this bill is not necessary.

In addition, because the federal requirements and procedures dictate the planning process that the DOT must follow in order to be entitled to federal funds, the DOT is compelled to follow these federal requirements and procedures. Any deviation would jeopardize the DOT's entitlement to these funds. The DOT is concerned that this bill could require the DOT to so deviate from the federally-mandated planning process. Should this occur, the DOT's entitlement to federal funds would be seriously jeopardized.

Based on the foregoing reasons, we respectfully recommend that this bill be held in committee.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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MUFI HANNEMANN
MAYOR



WAYNE Y. YOSHIOKA
ACTING DIRECTOR

SHARON ANN THOM
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 9, 2009

The Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Chair
and Members of the Committee on
Transportation
State House of Representatives
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Souki and Members:

Subject: House Bill No. 865
Relating to Transportation

The Department of Transportation Services supports House Bill No. 865 that requires the Statewide Transportation Council to comply with the county transportation and general plans.

The department believes that the bill would ensure close coordination and cooperation between the State and county in formulating the State Department of Transportation's Statewide Transportation Plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne Y. Yoshioka", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

WAYNE Y. YOSHIOKA
Acting Director

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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ROBERT M. SUMITOMO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 9, 2009

The Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Transportation
House of Representatives
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Souki and Members:

**Subject: House Bill No. 865
Relating to Transportation**

The Department of Planning and Permitting **supports** House Bill 865, which requires the Statewide Transportation Council to comply with relevant county plans as it prepares the statewide transportation plan.

While the City and County of Honolulu has the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) to serve as the conduit for coordinated state transportation planning and county land use planning, we believe the addition of this requirement is appropriate under Chapter 279A-2, HRS.

Please adopt House Bill 865.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DKT", written over a horizontal line.

David K. Tanoue, Acting Director
Department of Planning and Permitting

DKT: jmf
hb865-kst.doc

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Director of Council Services
Ken Fukuoka

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COUNTY OF MAUI
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WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
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February 7, 2009

TO: Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Chair
House Committee on Transportation

FROM: Danny A. Mateo
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2009; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
HB 865, RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to require the Statewide Transportation Council to comply with county transportation and general plans, to the extent it does not impact Federal funds, in the preparation of the statewide transportation plan for projected transportation needs for a six-year period.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. Requiring the State transportation plan to comply with county transportation and general plans will ensure consistency between the plans. It will also eliminate the potential for conflict with county plans when the State transportation plan is implemented.
2. The measure will ensure that the transportation needs of Maui County residents will be addressed in the State transportation plan.
3. Providing consistency between the State transportation plan and county plans will allow for more effective transportation systems that will better meet the transportation needs of Maui County residents.

For the foregoing reasons, I support this measure.

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January 7, 2009

The Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Chair
House Committee on Transportation
State Capitol, Room 309
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: H.B. 865 Relating to Transportation

HEARING DATE: February 9, 2009 @ 9:00 a.m.

Dear Chair Souki and Members of the Committee on Transportation:

I am Myoung Oh, here to testify on behalf of the Hawaii'i Association of REALTORS® ("HAR") and its 9,600 members in Hawaii'i. HAR **supports** H.B. 865 which requires the State Transportation Council to comply with county transportation and general plans.

HAR believes that adoption of H.B. 865 would improve coordination between state and county plans, which is critical to ensure that the transportation plans are planned, funded, and coordinated on a timely and efficient basis.

HAR looks forward to working with our state lawmakers in building better communities by supporting quality growth, seeking sustainable economies and housing opportunities, embracing the cultural and environmental qualities we cherish, and protecting the rights of property owners.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.