



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

March 28, 2012

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**HR 140/HCR 179
REQUESTING A STUDY ON THE REGIONAL TRAFFIC IMPACTS OF PROPOSED
DEVELOPMENTS AND INCREASING TOURISM IN THE NORTH SHORE AND
KOOLAULOA DISTRICTS**

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Requesting a study on the regional traffic impacts of proposed developments and increasing tourism in the North Shore and Koolauloa Districts.

We oppose this bill. The study is unnecessary due to existing planning processes and documents, and infrastructure efforts.

The Oahu Regional Transportation Plan 2035 (ORTP) was completed in April 2011. This plan identifies transportation projects that will both support and manage the island's future development. The development process included comprehensive input from government agencies such as consideration of the City's Development and Sustainable Communities Plans as well as future land use and growth. The ORTP identifies the majority of development/demand occurring along the Interstate H-1 Corridor. It also illustrates that AM peak hour traffic for the North Shore and Koolauloa districts are currently and will be at acceptable levels for the next 25 years.

In addition, the North Shore and Koolauloa Sustainable Communities Plans emphasize that further capacity improvements are not needed for their districts. Their priorities are safety and improving congestion through alternative methods such as multimodal transportation options and travel demand management.

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The HDOT's priorities are consistent with the ORTP and the sustainable communities plans. Current capacity improvements are focused in the H-1 urban core. The HDOT's Statewide Transportation Improvement Program identifies approximately \$125 million in safety and preservation improvements in the North Shore and Koolauloa districts. These include bridge replacement and rehabilitation, shoreline improvements, rock fall protection, and other safety improvements.