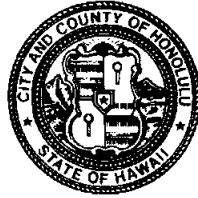


DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING
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PETER B. CARLISLE
MAYOR



DAVID K. TANOUE
DIRECTOR

JIRO A. SUMADA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

April 3, 2012

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Water,
Land, and Housing
The Honorable Will Espero, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Public Safety,
Government Operations, and Military Affairs
The Honorable J. Kalani English, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Transportation
and International Affairs
State Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz, Espero, English and Committee Members:

Subject: SCR 173 Proposed SD1, SR 103 Proposed SD1
Community Development Plans

The Department of Planning and Permitting supports efforts that promote good community planning. We also appreciate the state's interest in land development, particularly with respect to transit-oriented development (TOD). However, we would like to take this opportunity to **comment on the Proposed SD1** for SCR 173, and SR 103, based on duplication of the City and County of Honolulu's ongoing development of community-based TOD plans. The resolutions would encourage the Office of Planning to "develop a community development plan for communities along the route".

The City and County of Honolulu has prepared neighborhood TOD plans for the communities of East Kapolei, Waipahu, Pearl City, and Aiea. We are continuing to engage key stakeholders, including State agencies, as part of our ongoing planning process for Kalihi and Downtown Honolulu. Every TOD plan to date has included pertinent state agency representation on its respective advisory committee, including the colleges of the University of Hawaii (UH) system (Leeward Community College, Honolulu Community College, and West Oahu), the UH Urban Garden Center, the Department of Education personnel of neighboring schools, the Department of Transportation, Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, Hawaii Housing Authority, and the Department of Land and Natural Resources. In addition to face-to-face interaction, the input of state agencies is further solicited during the information-gathering phases as well as during the review period of the public review draft. Agencies can also comment during the formal city process of recognizing the plans by resolution.

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Water,
Land, and Housing

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Public Safety,
Government Operations, and Military Affairs

The Honorable J. Kalani English, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Transportation
and International Affairs

State Senate

Re: Proposed SD1 for SCR 173 and SR 103

April 3, 2012

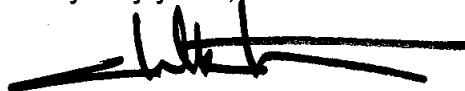
Page 2

Our plans study the impacts of rail transit on host communities, particularly within a one-half mile of each station, evaluating the common and individual social and physical needs of these diverse neighborhoods. The plans provide a master planning framework on appropriate land uses, heights and densities, while recommending urban design and other physical improvements unique to each area. In addition to coordinating with the various state departments as landowners, each plan takes into account matters of state concern: highway capacities and design, historic preservation, school capacities, and affordable housing.

The City and County of Honolulu has the funds encumbered to complete all station area TOD plans under its jurisdiction. We appreciate current state agency support, and welcome continued involvement through active participation in our outreach efforts. Community stakeholders would appreciate a singular planning effort, rather than overlapping government initiatives which will only encourage unnecessary confusion.

In short, these resolutions may not be necessary given the limited resources at the State Office of Planning. Rather than encouraging inter-governmental coordination and maximizing use of scarce government resources, they are redundant with ongoing city work and infringe on home rule. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Very truly yours,



David K. Tanoue, Director
Department of Planning and Permitting

DKT:jmf
scr173sr103RapidTransitLineRoute-ba.doc