
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES, AND UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO CREATE A TRAFFIC MITIGATION PLAN FOR THE LEEWARD AND CENTRAL AREA OF OAHU.

1 WHEREAS, traffic congestion is a serious problem faced by
2 cities around the country and throughout the world; and
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4 WHEREAS, traffic congestion negatively impacts the quality
5 of life for many residents of Oahu, especially for working
6 professionals and students commuting from outside the
7 metropolitan Honolulu area; and
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9 WHEREAS, traffic congestion in Honolulu is consistently
10 ranked as one of the worst in the nation, ranking second in a
11 report by INRIX, a traffic information and driver services
12 company; and
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14 WHEREAS, according to TomTom's traffic index, the average
15 commute time in Honolulu is approximately thirty minutes, and a
16 commuter will experience around seventy-six hours of delays per
17 year; and
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19 WHEREAS, increased traffic in Hawaii contributes to a
20 surprising rate of around 10,000 serious traffic accidents a
21 year, resulting in between one hundred-twenty and one hundred-
22 fifty fatalities and 8,000 to 12,000 individuals being seriously
23 injured; and
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25 WHEREAS, the problems with traffic in Honolulu are
26 particularly pronounced in weekday commutes between metropolitan
27 Honolulu and the Leeward and Central area of Oahu; and



1 WHEREAS, this problem may worsen with the growth of Kapolei
2 and the Ewa region, particularly with recent economic forecasts
3 predicting job growth in the Ewa market of more than 67,000 new
4 jobs over the next decade and a half; and

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6 ~~WHEREAS, although residential development and job growth~~
7 ~~occur at a rapid pace, decreasing the need for some residents to~~
8 ~~commute to downtown Honolulu, the Ewa Development Plan of 2011~~
9 ~~acknowledges that commuting to downtown Honolulu from the Ewa~~
10 ~~region remains a problem. The average commute time is at least~~
11 ~~seventy-five minutes, with twenty per cent of commuters spending~~
12 ~~almost ninety minutes commuting to downtown Honolulu on a~~
13 ~~regular basis, and commuters have stated that it takes an~~
14 ~~average of twenty to twenty-five minutes just to get out of Ewa~~
15 ~~Beach; and~~

16
17 WHEREAS, common experience for both working professionals
18 and students commuting from the Leeward region demonstrates that
19 congested conditions exist due to traffic funneling onto major
20 arterials with insufficient capacity stemming from Makakilo
21 Drive to downtown Honolulu; and

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23 WHEREAS, the poor commuting experience from the Leeward
24 region is exacerbated by increased traffic congestion resulting
25 from roadway closures and groundwork during the construction of
26 the high-capacity rapid transit system; now, therefore,

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28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
29 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
30 Session of 2016, that the Department of Transportation, in
31 partnership with the Department of Accounting and General
32 Services and the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at
33 the University of Hawai'i, the Honolulu Authority for Rapid
34 Transportation, Department of Transportation Services, Hawaii
35 Community Development Authority, and the Office of Planning, is
36 requested to establish a traffic mitigation plan for the Leeward
37 and Central region of Oahu; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation, the
3 State Comptroller, and the President of the University of
4 Hawai'i.

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