



**TESTIMONY BY:**

JADE T. BUTAY  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN  
DEREK J. CHOW  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

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

March 22, 2019  
2:10 P.M.  
State Capitol, Room 325

**H.C.R. 104 / H.R. 98**

**DESIGNATING KAILUA, OAHU, AS A VISION ZERO COMMUNITY WHERE NO LOSS OF LIFE OR SERIOUS INJURY ON ROADS IS ACCEPTABLE AND URGING GOVERNMENT TO ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT VISION ZERO POLICIES AND PLANNING.**

House Committee on Judiciary

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** these resolutions, and offers the following comments:

1. The DOT acknowledges that traffic-related fatalities in the State is a serious issue.
2. The DOT Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) identifies planning and policy similar to Vision Zero, therefore to the extent feasible the DOT requests if implemented the Vision Zero efforts align with the SHSP policy and programs. The alignment is to minimize duplication of on-going efforts of the implementation of the SHSP, such as the areas of policy, programs and design.
3. The SHSP identifies policies and strategies towards traffic safety improvements in the State with coordination of federal, state and county agencies, and community organizations. Strategies proposed through the SHSP has been legislation and funding, education, enforcement, and engineering with the improved coordination of federal, state, county agencies with the community.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Kailua Urban Design Task Force  
146 Hekili Street, Suite 202  
Kailua, Hawaii 96734  
March 21, 2019

The Honorable Chris Lee  
and Members of the House  
Committee on Judiciary  
State Capitol, Room 325  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: Testimony on House Concurrent Resolution 104

The Kailua Urban Design Task Force (KUDTF) would like to express our fullest support of HCR104 and its intent of designating Kailua, Oahu as a Vision Zero community where no loss of life or serious injury on roads is acceptable and urging government to adopt and implement Vision Zero policies and planning.

KUDTF was created by the Kailua Chamber of Commerce in 1994 at the suggestion of a Mayor Frank Fasi task force studying improvements for the Kailua ahupuaa. Our main purview is the Central Business District of Kailua Town, to help guide improvements for all property owners as well as for the public. We represent a collection of residents who share a like-minded belief that Kailua is a special place, unique in its physical as well as social setting. Although Kailua's natural environment and surroundings differentiate it from other parts of the island, its built environment also contribute to its uniqueness. As a group committed to promoting smart urban design principles, we believe that the built environment and public health are uniquely connected.

Kailua has long been recognized by local government, residents, and visitors as one of the more bike and pedestrian friendly communities in Hawaii. A number of projects have been implemented in recent years that help advance these ideals. However, despite the steady residential population numbers, a significant increase in tourists attracted to Kailua over the past ten years and the growing military population has resulted in an increase in traffic and strain on our roads. Narrow, curbsless roads with unimproved sidewalks constitute the majority of residential roads in Kailua. These roads once served as calm, neighborhood streets, safe for people of all ages and abilities to travel on. However, the increase in traffic throughout Kailua has resulted in many of these streets being inundated by cut-through vehicle traffic. This creates a less safe community for residents and visitors alike. The proliferation of speeding and reckless driving has been the cause of numerous vehicle crashes, some of which have resulted in injury or death.

We believe that action is needed from our government to protect what it is that makes Kailua special by prioritizing an active, healthy lifestyle that can proliferate through the enforcement, engineering, and education of safe streets for all.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on this matter.

Mahalo.

The Honorable Chris Lee  
and Members of the House  
Committee on Judiciary  
State Capitol, Room 302  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Date: 21 March 2019

SUBJECT: Testimony on House Concurrent Resolution 104

Dear Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support passage of HCR 104 as I firmly believe it will help create a safer Kailua town.

I was born, raised, and have lived much of my life (60 years) in Kailua. While it's not quite the town of my childhood, it is still a very special place; a place that many have found as a wonderful place to live, work, play, and visit. This is fantastic, and many of us longtime residents are happy to share what we've enjoyed for so many years. However, with the traffic borne from increased population and visitation, we need to implement measures aimed at providing a safer pedestrian environment for all.

Please pass HCR 104 and help us make Kailua a Vision Zero community.

Mahalo –

Kevin Butterbaugh

**HCR-104**

Submitted on: 3/21/2019 1:20:05 PM

Testimony for JUD on 3/22/2019 2:10:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| TOM DIGRAZIA        | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

Michael Packard  
188 Aumoe Road  
Kailua, Hawaii 96734  
March 21, 2019

**LATE**

The Honorable Chris Lee  
and Members of the House  
Committee on Judiciary  
State Capitol, Room 325  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: Testimony on House Concurrent Resolution 104

I would like to extend my support of HCR104 and its intent of designating Kailua, Oahu as a Vision Zero community where no loss of life or serious injury on roads is acceptable and urging government to adopt and implement Vision Zero policies and planning.

For the past 10 years, my wife and I have called Kailua home. Our ohana has grown over that time to include 3 small children as well as my elderly in-laws. I intend to raise my family in Kailua because of the opportunities it provides to live a more active lifestyle. The topography, weather, and land use make it an easy place to get around by bike or on foot. This is important to my family to maintain our health while also enabling mobility for my children and aging in-laws.

I am accepting of the fact that Kailua is changing as aging buildings are redeveloped and tourism increases. This does not necessarily have to be a burden on residents and the active lifestyle that many love about Kailua. With the appropriate policies and enforcement in place, growth can be combatted through the encouragement of safe active transportation. Vision Zero is a step in that direction, and one in which I feel should take priority over any voiced concerns about "traffic congestion" or loss of parking. This comes down to prioritizing people over convenience, safety over speed, our future over our past.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on this matter.

Sincerely,



Michael Packard

**LATE**

March 22, 2019

**RE: SUPPORT HCR104 / HR98**

DESIGNATING KAILUA, OAHU, AS A VISION ZERO COMMUNITY WHERE NO LOSS OF LIFE OR SERIOUS INJURY ON ROADS IS ACCEPTABLE AND URGING GOVERNMENT TO ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT VISION ZERO POLICIES AND PLANNING.

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

First, I want to extend my sincerest thanks to you for introducing and hearing this measure. I am a member of the Kailua community and have seen many changes there over the past 20 years. One of the most significant is the sheer volume of traffic that has become a part of our community.

In Kailua, I run, walk, bike, and drive. As a pedestrian there are too many times that I have too many near misses by automobiles. And yes, I am in the crosswalk, yes I look both ways, and I even check over my right shoulder when crossing a street for cars who are turning left. My diligence is negated by distracted drivers, speeding drivers, drivers who feel they have more right on the road than everyone else. They are operating a machine, that can kill. Drivers have responsibility to be aware. Everyone has the right to be safe on our streets.

Vision Zero is a way to greatly reduce the traffic fatalities. Our goal should be zero fatalities and serious injuries. It is not just about one person or another, it is about a community coming together and recognizing they have become a danger to themselves and others. More conversations, better engineering, more bike lanes, slower speed limits, circles, education are all ways to address the issue.

This week saw a spike of crashes in Kailua. Two of the people who were hit are twin 12 year old brothers. One of whom my daughters knows. She just cannot understand the reasons that is so dangerous to bike on the roads in her community. She had a near miss on her way home from school, while in a bike lane riding with traffic, a driver made a right and grazed her tire. I assure you, she was beyond shaken up. The speed limit is 25 mph on Keolu, and I routinely get passed on both the left and, on the right, (in the bike lane) when abiding that speed limit by other drivers who are anxious to get.... where, I don't know.

I am both angry and tired. Tired of telling my three children that the most dangerous thing you will do today is cross a street. And angry that I must. I live in place that claims it is bike and pedestrian friendly. We need to work together as a community to ensure we are living up to that claim.

Mahalo for taking the time to listen today.

Sincerely,

Peggy Mierzwa