



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
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Room 423

**H.C.R. 162 & H.R. 145
RELATING TO REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO
COLLABORATE WITH THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES TO CONDUCT A STUDY TO ENHANCE
PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AT THE INTERSECTION OF ALA MOANA BOULEVARD
AND KAMAKEE STREET.**

Senate Committee on Transportation

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

1. After the traffic incident the DOT assessed on February 11, 2019 the subject intersection and identified the following proposed improvements for the short- and mid-term.
 - a. Short-term improvements
 - i. Restrict right turn on red for all approaches.
 - ii. Remove right turn from Ala Moana Boulevard onto Kamakee Street.
 - b. Mid-term improvements
 - i. Increase sidewalk widths by filling in green spaces between sidewalk and curb.
 - ii. Reposition crosswalk and island to shorten the length to cross Ala Moana Boulevard and increase separation between crosswalk and through traffic from Kamakee Street.
2. Additionally, the DOT is moving forward with the following efforts to improve pedestrian safety:
 - a. Evaluation of unsignalized crosswalks for relocation, consolidation, and/or enhancements such as additional signage, advance stop bars, pavement words, rectangular rapid flash beacons (RRFB), pedestrian refuge islands, lane reconfigurations/repurposing, traffic signals, etc;
 - b. Evaluation location of bus stops;
 - c. Widening sidewalks where feasible;
 - d. Restrict right turn on red where appropriate; and

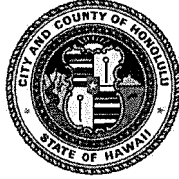
- e. Evaluate signalized crosswalk configurations at intersections including traffic signal timing and/or phasing.
 - f. Implementation of pedestrian awareness by conducting:
 - i. Sign waving in communities with outreach to media;
 - ii. Walkwise Hawaii program, which educates the public on pedestrian and driver safety.
 - iii. Partnering with the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Transportation Services and Honolulu Police Department.
3. The proposed short-term improvements will be announced to the public for comments or feedback before implementation. The assessment and identified improvements have been coordinated with the City and County Department of Transportation Services.
4. The mid-term improvements will be further assessed and coordinated in the design process in the next pavement resurfacing project, or in a separate project.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 3RD FLOOR
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
Phone: (808) 768-8305 • Fax: (808) 768-4730 • web: www.honolulu.gov

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



WES FRYSZTACKI
DIRECTOR

JON Y. NOUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

March 22, 2019

The Honorable Henry J. C. Aquino
The Honorable Troy N. Hashimoto
and Members of the House
Committee on Transportation
State Capitol, Room 423
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and Members of the Committee:

**SUBJECT: Testimony on House Concurrent Resolution 162 &
House Resolution 145**

The Department of Transportation Services is in support of this measure.

We are supportive of Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) efforts to enhance pedestrian safety at the intersection of Ala Moana Boulevard and Kamakee Street, and we note that HDOT has jurisdiction over this intersection.

Immediately following the fatal collision on January 28, 2019, DTS joined HDOT in a walkthrough of the intersection to identify short-term and longer-term solutions to improve pedestrian safety. We look forward to collaborating with HDOT in implementing these improvements.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Very truly yours,

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

Wes Frysztacki
Director



Representative Henry Aquino, Chair
Representative Troy Hashimoto, Vice Chair
House Committee on Transportation
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



RE: HCR 162/HR 145 – Requesting The Department Of Transportation To Collaborate with the City and County of Honolulu Department of Transportation Services to Conduct a Study to Enhance Pedestrian Safety at the Intersection of Ala Moana Boulevard and Kamakee Street

Testimony in Support, Request Amendment

**Friday, March 22, 2019, 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 423**

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Todd Apo, Senior Vice President, Community Development of The Howard Hughes Corporation, and on behalf of Ward Village, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HCR 162/HR 145, which request the State Department of Transportation to collaborate with the City and County of Honolulu to conduct a study on potential pedestrian safety measures at the intersection of Ala Moana Boulevard and Kamakee Street, including constructing pedestrian bridges in the area.

As the master plan developer for Ward Villages, which includes property along Ala Moana Boulevard and Kamakee Street, Howard Hughes shares the Legislature’s concern regarding the increase in pedestrian accidents and fatalities on Oahu, including the tragic accident that occurred on January 28, 2019. Howard Hughes is in the process of transforming Ward Villages into a walkable “live, work and play” community, and as such, supports the consideration of all reasonable efforts to protect pedestrians, including the construction of elevated walkways in and near the intersection of Kamakee Street.

While the resolutions, as currently drafted, request that the Department of Transportation to collaborate with the City and County of Honolulu to conduct a study of various pedestrian safety measures at the Kamakee Street intersection (and others), and report to the Legislature next year, we believe that the process to plan for

The Howard Hughes Corporation
Victoria Ward, Limited
Ward Village
1240 Ala Moana Blvd., Suite 200
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

T 808.591-8411
D 808.426.7735
C 808.781.7761
todd.apo@howardhughes.com

Todd Apo
Senior Vice President
Community Development



and design elevated walkways in the area can commence earlier. As part of that process, Howard Hughes has taken the initiative to preliminarily discuss the feasibility of a public-private partnership with the State Department of Transportation to help make elevated walkways -- which would greatly enhance pedestrian safety and experience in the area, while minimizing traffic impacts -- a reality.



While Howard Hughes's agreement and commitment to such a partnership will depend upon numerous details yet to be discussed, if all parties eventually agree to the terms of such a partnership, Howard Hughes envisions that it will be able to employ its resources and development expertise to help fund, plan, design and construct the elevated walkway, which would be located, in part, on Ward Village property. If implemented, this public private partnership will result in significantly-enhanced pedestrian safety while providing a better overall experience for all those who live, work, play and visit the area.

Given the foregoing, Howard Hughes respectfully requests the Committee to consider amending the resolutions to encourage the State Department of Transportation, in conjunction with the City and County of Honolulu, to engage with third parties and negotiate a public private partnership in order to develop enhanced pedestrian safety measures in this area, including elevated walkways across Ala Moana Boulevard.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of these resolutions.

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Community Development