

# OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

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Statement of  
**RODNEY FUNAKOSHI**  
Planning Program Administrator, Office of Planning  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**  
Tuesday, February 5, 2019  
10:00 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of  
**SB 1471**  
**RELATING TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS  
FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI.**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means.

The Office of Planning (OP) supports SB 1471, which would authorize the issuance of CIP funds to the County of Maui for the preparation of the Wailuku-Kahului Transit Corridor Master Plan. The project is one of several transit-oriented development (TOD) funding requests that the Hawaii Interagency Council for Transit-Oriented Development (TOD Council) has recommended for funding in Fiscal Year 2020. A copy of the TOD Council letter to the 2019 Legislature of its TOD CIP request endorsements is attached for your reference.

The proposed project would examine the redevelopment potential and corridor improvements needed to increase community livability and accommodate affordable housing along the transit spine between Wailuku Town and Kahului—essentially linking key State and County of Maui TOD projects in the TOD Council’s *Strategic Plan for Transit-Oriented Development*.

The funds would provide a forum for the State and the County to work together to promote growth in compact, mixed-use communities that are integrated with public transit. This effort would allow the State to examine how State investments in State facilities and lands along the corridor—including State facilities in Wailuku, affordable housing at Central Maui Transit Hub, Maui Community College, and various schools in proximity to transit nodes and stops along corridor—can contribute to creating more sustainable, complete communities that locate affordable housing in proximity to civic institutions, schools, jobs, goods, and services.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



# HAWAII INTERAGENCY COUNCIL FOR TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

DAVID Y. IGE  
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CO-CHAIR

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DTS201901301438BE

February 1, 2019

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, President  
Senate  
Thirtieth State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki, Speaker  
House of Representatives  
Thirtieth State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 431  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Thirtieth State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 208  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Thirtieth State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Chairs Dela Cruz and Luke:

Subject: Hawaii Interagency Council for Transit-Oriented Development,  
Support for Transit-Oriented Development CIP Requests, Fiscal Year 2020

On behalf of the Hawaii Interagency Council for Transit-Oriented Development (TOD Council) established pursuant to Act 130, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016, we are pleased to transmit for your consideration a list of recommended State and county agency transit-oriented development (TOD) capital improvement project (CIP) budget requests, which are being requested by the respective entities for State funding/appropriations for Fiscal Year 2020.

The TOD Council is charged with reviewing TOD-related CIP budget requests to the Legislature pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Section 226-63(b)(5). At its January 8, 2019 meeting, the TOD Council reviewed and endorsed the projects on the attached list for funding by the Legislature for Fiscal Year 2020. The Department of Land and Natural Resources and the Hawaii County projects are projects in the *State TOD Strategic Plan* issued by the TOD Council. The Maui County project funding request would fund planning for a transit corridor master plan that would link major TOD projects included and discussed in the *Plan*.

As co-chairs of the TOD Council, we are fully cognizant of the budgetary constraints the State faces. We respectfully submit that State investment in these TOD projects will provide long-term benefits to the communities they will serve—laying the groundwork for more affordable housing, better access to State services, more livable communities, new business opportunities, and more revenue-generating opportunities for the State and its counties.

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, Scott K. Saiki, Donovan M. Dela Cruz, and Sylvia Luke  
February 1, 2019  
Page 2

We hope that legislators also find these projects worthy of funding.

Sincerely,



Rodney Funakoshi  
Co-Chair Designee, TOD Council  
Planning Program Administrator,  
Office of Planning



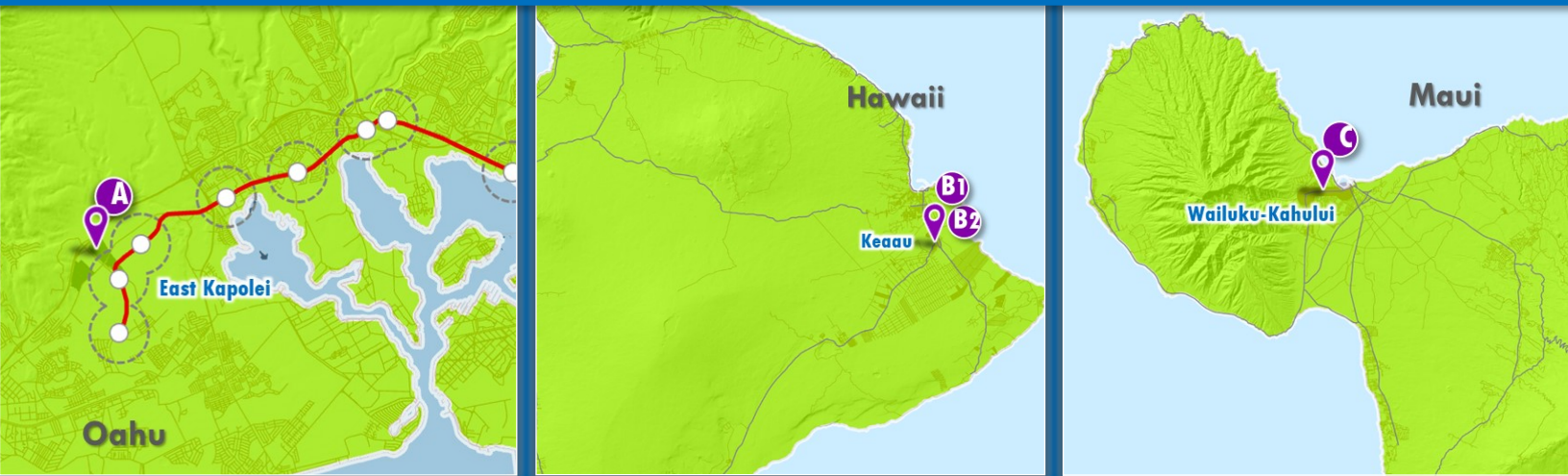
Craig Hirai  
Co-Chair, TOD Council  
Executive Director, Hawaii Housing Finance  
and Development Corporation

Attachment

c: David Y. Ige, Office of the Governor  
Roderick Becker, Department of Budget and Finance

# Transit-Oriented Development CIP Funding Requests Fiscal Year 2020

Recommended for funding by the Hawaii Interagency Council for Transit-Oriented Development (TOD Council)



**A DLNR 101—Proj LNR906—ENVTL STUDIES VARIOUS PROJECTS, STATEWIDE: [East Kapolei Master Plan EIS] ▶ \$1M**  
**DLNR Request, East Kapolei Lands TOD:** \$1,000,000 in Lump Sum CIP for preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for the East Kapolei Lands Master Development Plan. DLNR is currently preparing a master plan for approximately 175 acres of prime State lands at and surrounding the Keone`ae rail transit station at UH West Oahu. East Kapolei is a priority TOD area for the State. Revenues generated will help the DLNR to fund its conservation programs. The master plan is expected to be completed in late 2019, after which an EA/EIS will need to be prepared for subsequent development of these prime parcels. Funds to be allocated from Lump Sum CIP as needed.

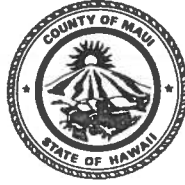
**B COUNTY OF HAWAII—KEAAU VILLAGE PROJECTS, KEAAU, PUNA [See projects below]**  
Two projects identified in the *State TOD Strategic Plan* are being pursued to support the County's disaster recovery efforts in the wake of the destructive 2018 Kilauea Volcano lava flows. The projects are consistent with the County's *Puna Community Development Plan*, and are needed to create residential and mixed-use opportunities in Keaau Village Center to enable it to become a public transit hub and commercial and residential center for outlying communities in the Puna District.

**B1 KEAAU VILLAGE TRANSIT HUB ▶ \$200,000**  
**County of Hawaii Request:** \$200,000 in planning funds for the preparation of plans for a public transit hub in Keaau, a large commercial area at the crossroads of upper and lower Puna. The project is facilitated by a willing major landowner and is consistent with the County *Puna Community Development Plan* and the County's transit plan.

**B2 KEAAU VILLAGE WASTEWATER SYSTEM ▶ \$500,000**  
**County of Hawaii Request:** \$500,000 in planning funds to study and prepare plans for the construction of a wastewater system for Keaau Village to catalyze the development of affordable housing in a mixed-use village center supported by urban infrastructure and public transit. The project is facilitated by a willing landowner and is consistent with the *Puna Community Development Plan*.

**C COUNTY OF MAUI—WAILUKU-KAHULUI TRANSIT CORRIDOR MASTER PLAN, KAHULUI ▶ \$500,000**  
**County of Maui Request, Wailuku-Kahului Transit Corridor:** \$500,000 in planning funds to prepare a master plan for public facility and multi-modal transportation improvements for the transit corridor connecting Wailuku and Kahului, and related civic improvements and affordable housing to increase livability of the Wailuku and Kahului town centers. Capitalizes on the construction of the new Central Maui Transit Hub that will be the transit focal point for the Kahului end of the corridor, as well as redevelopment initiatives in Wailuku Town.

MICHAEL P VICTORINO  
MAYOR



MARC I TAKAMORI  
Acting Director

MICHAEL B DU PONT  
Deputy Director

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, Hawaii, USA 96793-2155

February 04, 2019

TO: Hawaii State Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Hearing Date/Time: Tuesday, February 5, 2019 10:00AM  
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Room 211

FROM: Marc I. Takamori   
Acting Director of Transportation

SUBJECT: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB1471

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the committee,

The County of Maui, Department of Transportation (MDOT) **SUPPORTS** SB1471 which authorizes the Director of Finance to issue general obligation bonds to finance the planning of the Wailuku-Kahului Transit Corridor Master Plan in the county of Maui.

MDOT has been working closely with the County of Maui, Department of Planning, Department of Parks and Recreation, Department of Public Works, Department of Management, Department of Housing and Human Concerns and the Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization in looking at ways to:

- Reduce transportation costs for residents
- Reduce dependence on automobiles
- Increase the efficient use of existing roads and highways
- Encourage compact development by concentrating higher density housing around transit centers and routes
- Promote the development of walkable communities where residents can live, work and play.

With the proposed planning funds of \$500,000.00, the County of Maui, Department of Planning along with the other departments and the community will be able to examine the feasibility of a transit

Hawaii State Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair  
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corridor linking essential state and county services in Wailuku with its commercial and retail centers of Kahului, with improved transit service and other multi-modal transportation options being an integral part of improving access to jobs and services throughout Maui. This will examine redevelopment opportunities in Wailuku and Kahului, including transportation improvements for the transit corridor, capitalize on the potential for co-locating affordable housing, jobs, public services and other amenities to create walkable, bikeable and transit-supportive communities.

Thank you for providing us the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

**SB-1471**

Submitted on: 2/1/2019 11:59:20 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/5/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Anthony Miranda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-1471**

Submitted on: 2/1/2019 4:49:08 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/5/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lauren Armstrong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

TESTIMONY OF LAUREN ARMSTRONG

MAUI MPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

February 5, 2019 at 10:00am

Conference Room 211

SB 1471 RELATING TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI

Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Honorable Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of SB 1471. The purpose of this bill is to authorize the Director of Finance to issue general obligation bonds to finance the planning of the Wailuku-Kahului Transit Corridor Master Plan in the County of Maui.



The Maui MPO Policy Board has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as Executive Director.

A Wailuku-Kahului Transit Corridor Master Plan would enable Maui County to apply for a federal BUILD grant to finance the construction of multimodal transportation improvements. Ka'ahumanu Avenue serves over 50,000 vehicles daily, connecting Maui's primary commercial area in Kahului to its government seat in Wailuku. Imagine Ka'ahumanu Avenue transformed into a bus rapid transit corridor with safe walking and biking connections from surrounding communities and institutions to the transit stops. This is one of many alternatives the study would vet through technical analysis and public involvement.

Providing residents and visitors with multimodal options will help alleviate traffic congestion and encourage good health through walking and biking. County of Maui, Maui MPO, and community partners are working in coordination to promote walkable communities and transportation options through Hele Mai Maui 2040 Transportation Plan, Maui Bus service, Complete Streets and Community Plan updates. We are prepared to plan and implement a Wailuku-Kahului Transit Corridor.

Passage of this bill would accelerate Maui's ability to leverage a transportation corridor improvement to attract investment in housing and walkable mixed use development in Central Maui. **Please support SB 1471 to fund the Wailuku-Kahului Transit Corridor Master Plan.**

Sincerely,

Lauren Armstrong

Executive Director, Maui MPO