
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO EXPEDITE WORK ON THE MAIPALAOA BRIDGE IN MAILI, OAHU AND URGING VARIOUS ENTITIES TO WORK TOGETHER TO IMMEDIATELY OPEN THE SECTION OF THE WAIANAE COAST EMERGENCY ACCESS ROAD SYSTEM EXTENDING PAAKEA ROAD OUT TO LUALUALEI NAVAL ROAD FOR PUBLIC USE ON A PERMANENT BASIS.

1 WHEREAS, Farrington Highway is the main route of travel for
2 communities of the Leeward Coast of Oahu and is the only public
3 highway that leads into and out of the region; and
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5 WHEREAS, traffic conditions continue to worsen as the
6 population along the Leeward Coast continues to increase, and
7 the area is provided with only one route into and out of the
8 community; and
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10 WHEREAS, on a daily basis, frustrated Leeward motorists are
11 caught in gridlock traffic conditions; and
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13 WHEREAS, Farrington Highway has experienced lane closures
14 or complete shutdowns on numerous occasions due to traffic
15 accidents, severe weather, and other emergency conditions; and
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17 WHEREAS, Farrington Highway is undergoing continuous road
18 work on the Maipalaoa Bridge in Maili on the Leeward Coast of
19 Oahu; and
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21 WHEREAS, the Maipalaoa Bridge was last reconstructed in
22 1970 and is severely compromised due to years of deterioration;
23 and
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25 WHEREAS, in November 2015, the State of Hawaii awarded a
26 \$14,000,000 contract to Performance Systems Inc., to repair the
27 dilapidated Maipalaoa Bridge in Maili; and



1 WHEREAS, Performance Systems Inc., abandoned the Maipalaoa
2 Bridge project in 2017, after completing only five percent of
3 the project; and

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5 WHEREAS, a new contractor was hired to complete the
6 project, pushing the estimated completion date back to spring
7 2022; and

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9 WHEREAS, on February 14, 2020, the Department of
10 Transportation announced it would be contraflowing Farrington
11 Highway, which would reduce the highway from four lanes into
12 three, and the result would be extensive traffic congestion for
13 residents exiting and entering the Leeward Coast at all times of
14 the day; and

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16 WHEREAS, the impacts of such lane closures and
17 contraflowing of traffic have created longer commute times and
18 increased traffic congestion for the residents of the Leeward
19 Coast; and

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21 WHEREAS, this traffic congestion also results in delayed
22 response times for first responders and emergency medical
23 services, which puts the health and safety of the residents of
24 the Leeward Coast at risk; and

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26 WHEREAS, the deaths of Richard Takayama and Brandie J.
27 Navarro on January 25, 2020, on the Maipalaoa Bridge highlight
28 the safety concerns in the area; and

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30 WHEREAS, the system of roads known as the Waianae Coast
31 Emergency Access Road System (WCEAR) consists of gated roads
32 that are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Emergency
33 Management of the City and County of Honolulu and that can be
34 opened when deemed necessary or when requested by the Honolulu
35 Police Department; and

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37 WHEREAS, in 2017, the Legislature of the State of Hawaii
38 adopted House Resolution No. 125, urging the Department of
39 Transportation to work in conjunction with the Departments of
40 Emergency Management and Transportation Services of the City and
41 County of Honolulu and Honolulu Police Department to analyze and



1 assess the possibility of using the WCEAR on a more permanent
2 basis; and

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4 WHEREAS, this body finds that there is a critical need for
5 an alternate route to bypass the Maipalaoa Bridge construction
6 area to alleviate aforesated circumstances; now, therefore,
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8 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
9 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
10 2020, that:

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12 (1) The Department of Transportation is requested to take
13 all necessary steps to expedite work on the Maipalaoa
14 Bridge in Maili, Oahu; and

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16 (2) The State of Hawaii, City and County of Honolulu,
17 federal entities, and private land owners are urged to
18 work together to immediately open the section of the
19 Waianae Coast Emergency Access Road System extending
20 Paakea Road out to Lualualei Naval Road to be used as
21 a secondary access road to the Waianae Coast on a
22 permanent basis; and

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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of
25 Transportation seriously consider implementing overnight road
26 work to expedite the repair of the Maipalaoa Bridge in Maili,
27 Oahu; and

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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
30 Resolution be transmitted to the Division Administrator of the
31 U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway
32 Administration - Hawaii Division, Commander of Navy Region
33 Hawaii, Governor, Director of Transportation, Director of the
34 Department of Transportation Services of the City and County of
35 Honolulu, Director of the Department of Emergency Management of
36 the City and County of Honolulu, Chief of Police of the Honolulu
37 Police Department, and President of Pine Ridge Farms, Inc.

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OFFERED BY: 



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