
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO STATE HIGHWAYS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Section 264-143, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

3 "(a) When planning, designing, and implementing ground
4 transportation infrastructure for each project pursuant to this
5 part, the department shall endeavor to:

6 (1) Assess and maximize total throughput of people across
7 all modes of transportation;

8 (2) Achieve any goals described in the complete streets
9 policy adopted pursuant to section 264-20.5;

10 (3) Reduce vehicle miles traveled;

11 (4) Decrease the percentage of single occupancy vehicles
12 in the State's mode share;

13 (5) Provide equity for all communities and users;

14 (6) Improve safety and achieve any goals described in the
15 vision zero policy adopted pursuant to section
16 286-7.5;

17 (7) Reduce user cost of transportation;



- 1 (8) Improve public health;
- 2 (9) Reduce carbon emissions and greenhouse gasses to meet
- 3 state renewable portfolio standards established in
- 4 section 269-92 and zero emissions clean economy by
- 5 2045 pursuant to section 225P-5;
- 6 (10) [~~Reduce urban temperatures by incorporating tree~~
- 7 ~~canopy and foliage over hardened surfaces; and]~~
- 8 Implement the following criteria when planning a new
- 9 highway or new highway modification project:
- 10 (A) Minimize stormwater runoff to replenish the water
- 11 table;
- 12 (B) Incorporate and maximize trees and foliage cover
- 13 over hardened surfaces to reduce urban heat,
- 14 encourage sequestration of carbon and pollutants,
- 15 and create a visual and sound barrier to improve
- 16 quality of life in surrounding communities; and
- 17 (C) Finish non-travel-exposed hardened surfaces not
- 18 covered in foliage with a standardized paint
- 19 scheme that blends appropriately with Hawaii's
- 20 natural environment and protects against
- 21 weathering; and



1 (11) Beautify public infrastructure."

2 SECTION 2. (a) There is established the highway standards
3 task force within the department of transportation for
4 administrative purposes only, to guide the implementation,
5 funding, and maintenance of the highway standard goals
6 established by section 264-143, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

7 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

8 (1) One member appointed by the president of the senate
9 and one member appointed by the speaker of the house
10 of representatives, who shall serve as co-chairpersons
11 of the task force;

12 (2) One representative of the department of transportation
13 highways division;

14 (3) One representative of the department of land and
15 natural resources; and

16 (4) One representative of the climate change mitigation
17 and adaptation commission.

18 (c) The chairpersons of the task force shall invite
19 representatives of the following to participate on the task
20 force:



- 1 (1) Community groups with a focus on reducing urban
- 2 temperatures in public infrastructure;
- 3 (2) Organizations with a focus on reducing waste water in
- 4 public infrastructure; and
- 5 (3) Organizations with experience in painting and
- 6 finishing in public construction projects.

7 (d) The task force shall report its findings and
8 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
9 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
10 the regular sessions of 2023 and 2024.

11 (e) The members of the task force shall serve without
12 compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses, including
13 travel expenses, necessary for the performance of their duties.

14 (f) No member of the task force shall be subject to
15 chapter 84, Hawaii Revised Statutes, solely because of the
16 member's participation in the task force.

17 (g) The task force shall be dissolved on June 30, 2024.

18 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
19 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

20 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Department of Transportation; State Highways; Urban Tree Canopy

Description:

Establishes new highway construction standards which include minimizing storm drain runoff, maximizing tree and foliage coverage to reduce urban heat, and applying a standardized paint scheme to protect against weathering. Establishes a task force. (SD1)

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