



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDUARDO P. MANGALLAN
PATRICK H. MCCAIN
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

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

April 12, 2022
3:00 P.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 224/Teleconference

G.M. 839

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Highway Safety Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, JESSICA THOMPSON, for a term to expire 06-30-2023

Senate Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** the nomination of Jessica Thompson to the State Highway Safety Council (SHSC).

Chapter 286-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, establishes the SHSC which advises the Governor on matters relating to the programs and activities of the state in the field of highway safety. The state has adjusted the makeup of the committee from a group that was primarily government officials and safety advocates, to one that includes cross sections of all users of the highway system in our community. We believe the Gubernatorial Nominees will bring knowledge, experience and passion that will add tremendously to a council that will advise the department on eliminating roadway fatalities while modernizing the system to meet the current and future needs of our state.

Jessica Thompson is the current executive director of People for Active Transportation Hawai'i (PATH). Ms. Thompson works to manage, facilitate and promote equity informed transportation projects around our vulnerable road users.

Ms. Thompson's leadership role with PATH and her background in implementing community-based initiatives and experience with Hawaii's County's Vision Zero Task Force would be a welcomed addition to the SHSC.

The DOT respectfully requests that this Committee confirm Jessica Thompson to the SHSC, whose members serve without compensation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
Tuesday, April 12, 2022 — 3:00 p.m.

Ulupono Initiative strongly supports GM 839, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Highway Safety Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, Jessica Thompson, for a term to expire 06-30-2023.

Dear Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

My name is Micah Munekata, and I am the Director of Government Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food, renewable energy, clean transportation, and better management of freshwater and waste.

Ulupono strongly supports GM 839. Through her achievements at Oregon Walks and People for Active Transportation-Hawai'i, Ms. Thompson has been working with the community, transportation agencies, government officials, and more to help create on-the-ground safety solutions and promote Vision Zero policies and programs that help make our communities safer, more accessible, and healthier. Her experience and knowledge will provide an important voice for the State Highway Safety Council.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata
Director of Government Affairs

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



Date: 4/12/2022

To: Senator Chris Lee, Chair, Senate Committee on Transportation

From: Peggy Mierzwa, Community & Government Relations

RE: Supporting the nomination of JESSICA THOMPSON for confirmation to the State Highway Safety Council, Gubernatorial nominee, for a term to expire 06-30-2023

AlohaCare appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of GM 839, the nomination of JESSICA THOMPSON for confirmation to the State Highway Safety Council.

AlohaCare **supports** the nomination of Jessica Thompson to the State Highway Safety Council. As the Executive Director of PATH Hawaii Island, Ms. Thompson is a key leader in advancing transportation equity and ensuring access and mobility in Hawaii. Her dedication to community-led, culturally grounded organizing and advocacy will add needed perspective to SHSC and help ensure that transportation policy and plans are informed by and reflect the needs and experiences of communities which have been historically excluded from such processes.

Founded in 1994, AlohaCare is a community-rooted, non-profit health plan serving 80,000 Medicaid and dual-eligible health plan members on all islands. It is the only state health plan exclusively serving Medicaid patients. Our mission is to serve individuals and communities in the true spirit of aloha by ensuring and advocating access to quality health care for all. We believe that health is about supporting whole-person care, including access to housing and food security, to build a stronger, healthier Hawai'i.

Mahalo for this opportunity to support the nomination of JESSICA THOMPSON for confirmation to the State Highway Safety Council, Gubernatorial nominee, for a term to expire 06-30-2023.



The Honorable Ronald Kouchi, President,
and Members of the Senate
State Legislature Hawai'i State Capitol,
Room 409 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

2022.04.11

Dear Senate President Kouchi and Members of the Senate:

I wish to submit my wholehearted and strong support for the confirmation of **Jess Thompson** as a State Governor's representative to the Hawaii State Highway Safety Council.

I have worked with Jess for almost two years since she joined PATH and helps oversee a 'sister' bikeshare service on the Big Island (Kona & Hilo).

She will bring an important viewpoint and skills set relating to the programs and activities of the State in the area of 'highway' safety especially as it supports active transportation / Vision Zero goals and also as a link to the state highway facility customers in Hawaii County.

Though small, the Hawaii Island bikeshare system has its own innovations and leadership role within the state, as it is the first such system here to offer free bikeshare trips for bus transit riders to serve as a "last mile" solution in areas that cannot support fixed route transit.

Best regards,

Todd Boulanger
Executive Director

Todd Boulanger,
Executive Director

Ranked
as a Top US
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by NACTO
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HIPHI Board

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State of Hawai'i, Deputy Public Defender

HIPHI Initiatives

Coalition for a
Tobacco-Free Hawai'i

Community Health
Worker Initiative

COVID-19 Response

Hawai'i Drug & Alcohol Free
Coalitions

Hawai'i Farm to School Hui

Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition

Hawai'i Public Health Training Hui

Healthy Eating + Active Living

Kūpuna Food Security Coalition

Date: April 11, 2022

To: Senator Chris Lee, Chair
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Transportation

Re: Support for GM839, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Highway Safety Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, JESSICA THOMPSON, for a term to expire 06-30-2023.

Hrg: April 12, 2022 at 3:00 PM in Conference Room 224 and via videoconference

Hawai'i Public Health Institute (HIPHI) appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony in support of GM839 and Jessica Thompson's appointment to the State Highway Safety Council.

HIPHI is a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the health and wellness of the people and islands of Hawai'i. HIPHI strives to be a bridge between community and partners from government and healthcare so that all relevant stakeholders throughout the Hawai'i are involved in decisions related to public health policy, programs, and investments. We believe we can play a significant role in the shift of public health from being primarily about treating disease to the promotion of preventing it. Our work includes food and agriculture, transportation and public safety, oral health, healthy eating + active living (HEAL), drug and alcohol prevention, tobacco prevention and control, COVID-19 response efforts and workforce development.

As the Executive Director of PATH, Jess is dedicated to promoting safe, accessible active transportation options throughout Hawai'i Island. Many of HIPHI's staff members have had the pleasure of working with Jess, whether it is through the statewide Obesity Prevention Task Force or on initiatives on Hawai'i Island.

Mahalo for the opportunity to strongly support Jess's gubernatorial nomination to the State Highway Safety Council.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amanda Fernandes', written over a white background.

Amanda Fernandes, JD
Policy and Advocacy Director

GM-839

Submitted on: 4/8/2022 7:39:06 AM

Testimony for TRS on 4/12/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
April J Surprenant	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support the confirmation of Jessica Thompson to the State Highway Safety Council. She is committed to the people of Hawaii and will bring great value to the Council. Jess is a leader in the Big Island transportation community and is dedicated to improving and expanding multimodal opportunities for safe and equitable travel for everyone on island.

I respectfully request your strong support toward the confirmation of Jessica Thompson to the State Highway Safety Council.

GM-839

Submitted on: 4/8/2022 12:21:52 PM

Testimony for TRS on 4/12/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Abigail Carbon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Whom It May Concern,

I have known Jessica Thompson since September of 2021 when we became neighbors. Upon meeting, she was kind, giving, empathetic and considerate. In the seven months that we have been neighbors, she has remained true to each one of those traits. Her willingness to dogsit my dog, to give produce from her yard or simply listen as a friend; has gone above and beyond what anyone could ever hope for of a neighbor.

She has been involved in her community through her career choice, her volunteer work and charity work. The county has benefited with having her in the position that she is in and will benefit with having her in this council.

Mahalo,

Abigail Carbon

April 09, 2022

HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

TESTIMONY ON GM 839

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Highway Safety Council,
Jessica Thompson

DATE: Tuesday, April 12, 2022

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support the confirmation of Jessica Thompson to the State Highway Safety Council. Jess is committed to the people of Hawaii and would bring great value to the Council. As the Planning Director for County of Hawai'i, I worked closely with PATH and Jess on the development of the Vision Zero Plan for Hawai'i Island. After my appointment as Planning Director, I continue to work closely with Jess on advancing transportation and safety issues. The Council will benefit from her collaborative approach to bring about positive change in Hawai'i but especially for Hawai'i Island.

I respectfully request your strong support toward the confirmation of Jessica Thompson to the State Highway Safety Council.

April 10, 2022

The Honorable Ronald Kouchi, President,
And Members of the Senate
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 409 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Regarding GM839- In Support
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Highway Safety Council,
Gubernatorial Nominee, JESSICA THOMPSON, for a term to expire 06-30-2023.

Dear Senator Kouchi,

I am writing in support of the confirmation of Jessica Thompson to the State Highway Safety Council.

I first met Jessica Thompson in November of 2020, while in my former role as Executive Director of PATH.

I was immediately impressed with Jess' knowledge of the challenges and opportunities of building a safe and equitable multi modal transportation system in an existing car centric environment.

Ms. Thompson has over 18 years of experience in active transportation education and advocacy as well as non-profit management. Ms. Thompson has a breadth of experience, as well as a personality and temperament that make her well suited to this important role of a member of the State Highway Safety Council.

Ms. Thompson is presently the Executive Director of PATH (People for Active Transportation Hawaii) and is responsible overseeing the equity-informed strategic planning for PATH, facilitating the Hawaii County Vision Zero Plan development, managing bicycle and pedestrian education programs, the expansion of HIBIKE bikeshare system and winning over \$1 million in active transportation investments for Hawaii County.

I respectfully request that your committee recommend confirmation of Jessica Thompson to the State Highway Safety Council.

Sincerely,

Tina Clothier

GM-839

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 2:59:45 PM

Testimony for TRS on 4/12/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Natasha Soriano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

April 11, 2022

HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

TESTIMONY ON GM 839

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Highway Safety Council, Jessica Thompson.

DATE: Tuesday, April 12, 2022
TIME: 3:00 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support the confirmation of Jessica Thompson the State Highway Safety Council. Jess is committed to the people of Hawaii and would bring great value to the Council. Her work to that supports active transportation in the county of Hawaii as the executive director of the People for Active Trails Hawaii has helped to bring transportation equity and safety to the forefront of transportation decision. She continues to advocate the safety for all modes of travel with her work in convening the Mayor's Active Living Committee for the County of Hawaii, and as

coordinator of HIBike, a bike sharing system that is supported by the County of Hawaii's Mass Transit Agency.

I respectfully request your strong support toward the confirmation of Jessica Thompson to the State Highway Safety Council.

Natasha Soriano

LATE

GM-839

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 9:48:10 PM
Testimony for TRS on 4/12/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chad K Taniguchi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Jessica Thompson brings walk/bike safety experience from leading communities in Oregon to the State Highway Safety Council. She continues a long line of committed and effective leaders from PATH-Hawaii, such as Laura Dierenfield and Tina Clothier, who bring knowledge and experience from the Big Island to a state level.



Sally C. Ancheta
East Hawai'i Drug-Free Coalition
741 Heahea Street Hilo HI 96720

The Honorable Senator, Chris Lee Chair; and
Members of the Committee on Transportation

April 12, 2022

Aloha Chair Lee and distinguished members of the Senate Committee on Transportation,

It is my pleasure to provide testimony to your committee on behalf of Jessica Thompson to the State of Hawaii Safety Council. Jessica is a committed community partner who has dedicated her time to create and maintain health, vitality and wellness in our communities. From keiki to kupuna, she is advocating and leading efforts to create safe and equitable transportation access and programs, throughout Hawai'i Island.

I have known Jessica for over 2 years and have witnessed her leadership and compassion for equity and community engagement as she leads People for Active Transportation Hawaii (PATH), the Mayor's Active Living Council (MALAC) and impactful participation in Hilo Bayfront Trails. She is dedicated to building a network of safe and equitable transportation assets throughout Hawai'i Island.

I strongly support Jessica's appointment to the State of Hawai'i Safety Council as it will benefit our state with the knowledge she brings to transportation programs and policies. Jessica is a valuable asset with a wealth of experience in serving communities, both at the state and local levels. I ask you to recommend approval of GM839.

With aloha,

Sally Ancheta

Sally C. Ancheta

Coalition Coordinator, East Hawai'i Drug-Free Coalition