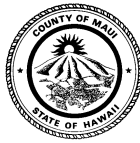


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COUNTY COUNCIL

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March 24, 2023

TO: The Honorable Representative Chris Todd, Chair, and
Members of the House-Committee on Transportation

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alice L. Lee".

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 28, 2023; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
HCR188/HR193, URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
AND MAUI METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION TO RESTORE
THE LĀHAINĀ BYPASS PHASE 1C PROJECT TO THE STATEWIDE
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important resolution. The purpose of this resolution is to urge the Department of Transportation and Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization restore the Lāhainā Bypass Phase 1C to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, or STIP.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this resolution. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this resolution for the following reasons:

1. In 2021, the STIP included an extension of the Lāhainā Bypass from Keawe Street to Kā'anapali, designated as Lāhaina Bypass Phase 1C, as a means of reducing the impact of visitors on Maui's transportation infrastructure. But the project was removed from the STIP last year.
2. The Maui Island Plan states that the Lāhainā Bypass project is necessary to alleviate daily traffic congestion, accommodate future growth, and mitigate the impact of flooding and erosion on Honoapi'ilani Highway.
3. Completing this portion of the project will also support further improvements in the area, including development of the West Maui Hospital and Medical Center.

For the foregoing reasons, I **support** this measure.

HR-193

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 12:17:57 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/28/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SUPPORT:

HR-193

Submitted on: 3/26/2023 2:14:07 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/28/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jo Anne J Winer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

During my tenure on the County Council and also my five years as Director of Transportation, the completion of the Lahaina Bypass has always been one of the highest priority items on the STIP. I was a participant in the STIP process for years and support was overwhelming for the Lahaina Bypass and especially the Northern extension which would alleviate the serious congestion that occurs daily on Honoapiilani Highway at Keawe Street.

I am shocked that the developer who is in the process of completing housing just mauka of Lahaina Gateway is not compelled to financially support the Bypass extension which would be added to the monies that have already been or will be collected from other area developments in addition to car rental revenues for the bypass. While he may have been granted some type of exemption, this not only degrades the safety of residents who already live in the area, but also those who will one day live in the units being constructed. The area on Keawe Street is almost impossible for residents to cross as it is. Combine this with school traffic and people shopping both to the North and South off Keawe Street and it is a nightmare.

We are in the process of moving forward with the West Maui Hospital and the northern extension of the Bypass is a necessity for the safe transit of patients to the hospital. In addition to Hawaiian Homes plans for development, the Pulelehua Housing project is also moving forward, which will make the congestion and safety concerns much worse. The levels of service due to congestion and peak period traffic are at times an LOS "F" which makes our roadways a parking lot.

When I was in the process of drafting the MPO language as Maui DOT Director (eventually adopted by the County Council after I left office) I had hoped that it would enable the State to better understand that the needs of the community and their wishes should take precedence over the isolated decisions that are made in Oahu. If the process ignores the community in developing the TIP which becomes part of the STIP, then I am deeply disappointed that the goals and objectives will never be met in the eyes of the public. Fatalities will be much more likely if something is not done to complete the northern extension. Design build is certainly an option.

I devoted years to pursuing inclusiveness in all matters that came before me and yet I always felt frustrated that the voices of the neighbor islands were muted by those in positions of power who failed to listen to those who were most negatively impacted by their decisions. I implore the State DOT Director and all those who have the ability to restore the northern extension of the Lahaina Bypass to listen to the area residents and respect their wishes. I know when

Fred Cajical was at DOT he was always an advocate for the Northern extension. His knowledge and guidance were invaluable. I hope his recommendations will be followed.

Sincerely,

Jo Anne Johnson Winer

Former Councilmember for West Maui

Retired Director of Transportation for Maui County