



Testimony of the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs & Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts

Date: March 25, 2025, Time: 3:00PM

Location (ex. CR 016 & Videoconference)

Measure SCR 182

Measure Title: Relating to Transportation

Dear Chairs Wakai and Lee, Vice Chairs Chang and Inouye, and Committee Members,

The Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OahuMPO) **supports SCR182**, which encourages the City and County of Honolulu to establish a Summer Streets Pilot Program that closes vehicular traffic and repurposes roads for pedestrian and cyclist use, outdoor events, and other cultural engagement.

SCR182 will create opportunities for safer, more vibrant public spaces by designating streets for pedestrians, cyclists, and community use through a Summer Streets Pilot Program for Urban Honolulu, as well as other neighborhoods that want to realize these benefits. Closing select streets to vehicular traffic fosters active transportation, promotes local businesses, and provides residents with safe, car-free spaces for recreation and social gatherings.

We are hopeful that launching a pilot program will build momentum for implementation island-wide, creating scheduled, reoccurring events for people to experience safe streets for outdoor activities and gatherings. A Summer Streets program will provide opportunities for people to safely try various modes of transportation. Similar programs in other cities have increased foot traffic, improved public health, and boosted local economies by attracting more people to shared spaces.

This resolution would help us achieve Hawaii's climate goals by reducing vehicle emissions and encouraging sustainable transportation options. SCR182 aligns with the Vision and Goals of the Oahu Regional Transportation Plan (ORTP) by promoting an equitable and resilient transportation system.

The OahuMPO is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) on the island of Oahu responsible for carrying out a multimodal transportation planning process, including the development of a long-range (25-year horizon) metropolitan transportation plan, referred to as the Oahu Regional Transportation Plan (ORTP), which

encourages and promotes a safe, efficient, and resilient transportation system that serves the mobility needs of all people and freight (including walkways, bicycles, and transit), fosters economic growth and development, while minimizing fuel consumption and air pollution ([23 CFR 450.300](#)).

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

SR-152

Submitted on: 3/23/2025 2:19:51 PM

Testimony for EIG on 3/25/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dylan P. Armstrong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mahalo for your consideration of this timely and thoughtful measure. All transportation users are pedestrians. Many are bicyclists. We need complete streets for all users. Revitalize our communities.