

MAR 18 2009

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FERRY SYSTEM FROM THE
HOAKALEI RESORT AND MARINA IN EWA BEACH TO DOWNTOWN
HONOLULU.

1 WHEREAS, in the 1970s, the vision of the City and County of
2 Honolulu was the creation of a second city in Kapolei as a
3 second urban core on Oahu to relieve congestion in east Oahu by
4 distributing population growth westward; and

5
6 WHEREAS, this long-term land use decision gave rise to
7 major developments on the Ewa plains for commercial, office,
8 residential, and industrial uses for both the government and
9 private sector; and

10
11 WHEREAS, Kapolei has experienced enormous population and
12 job growth, rising from approximately forty-three thousand
13 residents in 1990 to about eighty-four thousand in 2005, and the
14 population is projected to grow to roughly one hundred seventy-
15 three thousand persons by 2025; and

16
17 WHEREAS, Ewa is also a dynamically growing area, with more
18 than seven thousand housing units added to the Ewa plains area
19 in a comparable time period, and thousands more on the drawing
20 board; and

21
22 WHEREAS, the growth of Kapolei and Ewa is expected to
23 provide more than sixty-five thousand jobs by 2025, making this
24 area a regional commercial center and attracting customers from
25 all parts of Oahu; and

26
27 WHEREAS, both the Ko Olina and Hoakalei Resort and Marina
28 are projected to include over three thousand seven hundred
29 visitor units per year by 2020; and

30



1 WHEREAS, in addition to the increasing number of jobs and
2 homes, other new developments will also contribute to the
3 traffic congestion experienced in the Ewa region, including the
4 new University of Hawaii at West Oahu campus, a major super
5 regional park, the Ko Olina Resort and Marina, Kalaeloa, a major
6 deep draft harbor and industrial center at Campbell Industrial
7 Park and Barber's Point, the Hoakalei Resort and Marina, the
8 Salvation Army Kroc Center, and a planned film studio and
9 supporting industrial complex; and

10
11 WHEREAS, all of these new developments are anticipated to
12 result in increased vehicular flow between the Ewa region and
13 Honolulu; and

14
15 WHEREAS, the Ewa Development Plan acknowledges that,
16 despite the projected increase of Ewa residents who live and
17 work in the Ewa region, the majority of Ewa residents will
18 commute to jobs in Honolulu and recommends that transportation
19 plans should provide adequate capacity for commuting to work
20 from Ewa to the primary urban center in Honolulu; and

21
22 WHEREAS, in 1992, a consortium of developers and landowners
23 prepared an Ewa Region Highway Transportation Master Plan as
24 part of a process to assess the need for highway improvements
25 and estimate the portion of costs to be contributed by each
26 developer vis-a-vis agreements under which each agreed to pay
27 its fair share of necessary road development; and

28
29 WHEREAS, current and planned transportation improvements
30 enhance the flow of vehicles within the Ewa-Kapolei-Makakilo-
31 Kalaeloa corridor, but not the commute between the area and the
32 primary urban center in downtown Honolulu; and

33
34 WHEREAS, common experience demonstrates that congested
35 conditions exist for the Ewa region because of insufficient
36 capacity on the corridors leading from the Ewa marina, up Fort
37 Weaver Road to the H-1 interchange, and from the H-1 interchange
38 to downtown Honolulu; and

39
40 WHEREAS, according to the Oahu Metropolitan Planning
41 Organization's 2020 Oahu Regional Transportation Plan, the
42 traffic congestion already experienced daily by Ewa residents
43 will be exacerbated by a projected sixty per cent increase in



1 vehicular volume on the H-1 Freeway at Waikele as well as a
2 projected ten per cent increase at Aiea by 2020; and
3

4 WHEREAS, the Ewa Development Plan recommends a reduction in
5 the reliance on private passenger vehicles through inclusion and
6 implementation of transit-oriented development and alternative
7 transportation methods, as well as strategic planning for a
8 "more mobile, less automobile-dependent community"; and
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10 WHEREAS, a Honolulu Public Transit Authority study on bus
11 system expansion from 1994 to 2006, showed in an increase in
12 buses assigned to the Ewa service area from thirty-five to
13 eighty-eight buses, of which forty-five were high-capacity
14 buses; and
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16 WHEREAS, to encourage and facilitate bus ridership, the
17 City and County of Honolulu's Department of Transportation
18 Services has proposed a park-and-ride facility in Ewa near the
19 future North-South Road and Kapolei Parkway intersection; and
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21 WHEREAS, two pilot ferry programs have been funded by the
22 federal government, while TheBoat, a ferry program currently
23 operating out of Campbell Industrial Park, has been extended
24 beyond its initial one-year demonstration period; and
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26 WHEREAS, the tremendous growth in the Ewa Beach region
27 merits an alternative means of transportation to Honolulu to
28 alleviate congestion on the H-1; now, therefore,
29

30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the
32 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
33 Transportation is encouraged to engage in and facilitate
34 discussions with the City and County of Honolulu Department of
35 Transportation Services, private developers, and other
36 stakeholders to explore the possibility of establishing a ferry
37 operation from the Hoakalei Resort and Marina to downtown
38 Honolulu; and
39

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the respective parties are
41 encouraged to request assistance from Hawaii's congressional
42 delegation to identify possible funding sources for this ferry
43 system; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of
3 Transportation, the Director of the Department of Transportation
4 Services for the City and County of Honolulu, the President of
5 Haseko (Hawaii), Inc., and to each member of Hawaii's
6 congressional delegation.
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OFFERED BY:

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