
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES, AND UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO CREATE A TRAFFIC MITIGATION PLAN FOR THE EWA AREA OF OAHU.

1 WHEREAS, traffic congestion is a serious problem faced by
2 cities around the country and throughout the world; and
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4 WHEREAS, traffic congestion negatively impacts the quality
5 of life for many residents, especially for working professionals
6 and students commuting from outside the metro Honolulu area; and
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8 WHEREAS, traffic congestion in Honolulu has been
9 consistently ranked as one of the worst in the nation, ranking
10 second in a report by INRIX, a traffic information and driver
11 services company; and
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13 WHEREAS, according to TomTom's traffic index, the average
14 commute time in Honolulu is around 30 minutes, and a commuter
15 will experience around 76 hours of delays per year; and
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17 WHEREAS, increased traffic in Hawaii has helped contribute
18 to a surprising rate of around 10,000 serious traffic accidents
19 a year; between 120 and 150 fatalities occur as a result of such
20 accidents, with 8,000 to 12,000 individuals seriously injured;
21 and
22

23 WHEREAS, the problems with traffic in Honolulu are
24 particularly pronounced in the weekday commute between metro
25 Honolulu and the Ewa area of Oahu; and
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27 WHEREAS, this problem may only worsen with the growth of
28 Kapolei and the Ewa region, particularly with recent economic



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1 forecasts predicting job growth in the Ewa market at a rate of
2 more than 67,000 new jobs over the next decade and a half; and
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4 WHEREAS, although residential development and job growth
5 has occurred at a rapid pace decreasing the need for some
6 residents to commute to downtown Honolulu, the Ewa Development
7 Plan of 2011 acknowledges that commuting to downtown Honolulu
8 from the Ewa region remains a problem with the average commute
9 time being at least 75 minutes, with 20 percent of commuters
10 spending almost 90 minutes commuting to downtown Honolulu on a
11 regular basis, and commuters have stated that it takes an
12 average of 20 to 25 minutes just to get out of Ewa Beach; and
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14 WHEREAS, common experience for both working professionals
15 and students commuting from the Ewa region demonstrates that
16 congested conditions exist because traffic is funneled onto
17 major arterials with insufficient capacity leading from the Ewa
18 marina, up Fort Weaver Road to the H-1 interchange, and from the
19 H-1 interchange to downtown Honolulu; and
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21 WHEREAS, the poor commuting experience from the Ewa region
22 has only been made worse because of increased traffic congestion
23 resulting from roadway closures and groundwork during the
24 construction of the high-speed rapid transit system; now,
25 therefore,
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27 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
28 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
29 Session of 2015, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
30 Transportation, in partnership with the Department of Accounting
31 and General Services and University of Hawaii, is requested to
32 establish a traffic mitigation plan for the Ewa Region of Oahu;
33 and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
36 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of
37 Transportation, the State Comptroller, and President of the
38 University of Hawaii.
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OFFERED BY: 

MAR 13 2015