



March 7, 2018

**DEPT. COMM. NO. 358**

**VIA HAND DELIVERY AND EMAIL**

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
Senate President  
415 South Beretania Street  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan - Ten Year Measurement Update

Dear President Kouchi:

We are enclosing a copy of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan - Ten Year Measurement Update. Copies of the report have also been delivered to each member of the Senate and House of Representatives. The report is also accessible through the Office of the Auditor's website at <http://files.hawaii.gov/auditor/Reports/2018/2018H2050.pdf>.

Act 8 of the 2005 Special Session of the Hawaii State Legislature (Act 8) established the Hawaii 2050 Task Force (Task Force) to review the Hawaii State Plan and the State's comprehensive planning system, to develop a statewide sustainability plan for the 21st century. Act 8 required the Office of the Auditor, after receipt of the Task Force's report, to prepare the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan to define and implement state goals, objectives, policies, and priority deadlines by incorporating the Task Force's recommendations.

In January 2008, the Office of the Auditor submitted the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan to the Hawaii State Legislature.

While Act 8 called for "[t]he auditor, with the assistance of the office of planning [to] update the [sustainability] plan every ten years and report to the legislature," no funding beyond Fiscal Year 2007 was appropriated for the purposes of this Act. Furthermore, Act 8 called for the Hawaii 2050 Task Force to sunset on June 30, 2008. Therefore, the Task Force recommended the Legislature pass a law establishing an implementing agency, the Sustainability Council, to be a continuing, governmental organization with budgetary and staffing resources essential to carry forward the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan. However, a Sustainability Council was never established.

Given that a Sustainability Council was never established, and that our office lacks the requisite expertise and financial resources to facilitate a full, formal update, the enclosed report represents an informal update of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability plan prepared by the Office of Planning. This informal update includes a compilation, review and analysis of available metrics originally established by the 2008 version of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan, along with additional recommendations developed by the Office of Planning.

We express our appreciation for the assistance extended by the State Sustainability Coordinator Danielle M. M. Bass in preparing the enclosed report.

If you have questions about the report, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

Leslie H. Kondo  
State Auditor

Enclosure