



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**HAWAII CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION & ADAPTATION**  
**COMMISSION**  
POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of**  
**Anukriti Hittle**  
**Coordinator, Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission**

**Before the House Committee on**  
**TRANSPORTATION**

**Friday, January 31, 2020**  
**10:00AM**  
**State Capitol, Conference Room 423**

**In support of**  
**HOUSE BILL 2207**  
**RELATING TO LAND USE**

House Bill 2207 proposes to authorize the office of planning to conduct a land use study for Hauula, Oahu, that assesses the viability and cost of maintain the transit corridor. **On behalf of the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (Commission) I offer the following comments in support of this measure.**

The Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission “recognizes the urgency of climate threats and the need to act quickly. It promotes ambitious, climate-neutral, culturally responsible strategies for climate change adaptation and mitigation in a manner that is clean, equitable and resilient.” The Commission, established by Act 32 SLH 2017 to uphold the United States’ pledges under the Paris Agreement, is the coordinating body for policies on climate change mitigation and adaptation for the state. It is a high-level multi-jurisdictional body that guides the priorities of the state’s climate response. Co-chaired by DLNR and Office of Planning, it consists of 20 members—chairs of four legislative committees, and executive department heads at the county and state levels.

Addressing adaptation to address the impacts of climate change in Hawaii is one of the two main focuses of the Commission. In its September 2018 statement identifying strategies, it:

“Encourages agencies and non-governmental utility providers to identify and prioritize assets within the 3.2 feet SLR-XA or more as described in the State’s Sea Level Rise report, identify adaption measures, and to provide a status update on this activity annually to the Climate Commission.”

HB2207’s emphasis on climate adaptation strategy options that address the impact of coastal erosion on coastal highways is noteworthy. This measure also echoes the main message in the

**Co-Chairs:**  
Chair, DLNR  
Director, Office of Planning

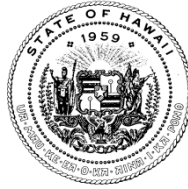
**Commissioners:**  
Chair, Senate AEN  
Chair, Senate WTL  
Chair, House EEP  
Chair, House WTH  
Chairperson, HTA  
Chairperson, DOA  
CEO, OHA  
Chairperson, DHHL  
Director, DBEDT  
Director, DOT  
Director, DOH  
Chairperson, DOE  
Director, C+C DPP  
Director, Maui DP  
Director, Hawai’i DP  
Director, Kaua’i DP  
The Adjutant General  
Manager, CZM

Federal Highway Administration's *Nature-Based Solutions for Coastal Highway Resilience: An Implementation Guide*, August 2019 (FHWA-HEP-19-042) that nature-based solutions provide risk-reduction benefits to coastal highways by reducing coastal flooding, wave heights, and erosion, and can serve as a first line of defense and improve the resilience of coastal highways. Further, the National Institute of Building Sciences' *Natural Hazard Mitigation Saves: 2017 Interim Report* found hazard mitigation funding can save the nation \$6 in future disaster costs for every \$1 spent on hazard mitigation. This supports the idea embodied in HB2207—that a land use study to protect critical infrastructure is essential.

This testimony also encourages such climate adaptation strategy options be identified for the entire state coastal road system.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment in support of this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



**TESTIMONY BY:**

JADE T. BUTAY  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN  
DEREK J. CHOW  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

January 31, 2020  
10:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, Room 423

**H.B. 2207**  
**RELATING TO LAND USE**

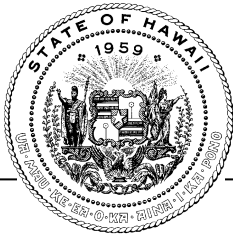
House Committee on Transportation

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.B. 2207. The DOT recognizes the importance of supporting resiliency efforts to address sea level rise and other extreme weather events and is undertaking efforts to evaluate the vulnerabilities of our State Highway System.

The DOT also recognizes that developing a long-term strategic plan to address existing issues and increase the resiliency of our State Highway System will require collaboration with the planning agencies and coastal managers statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



**OFFICE OF PLANNING  
STATE OF HAWAII**

**DAVID Y. IGE**  
GOVERNOR

**MARY ALICE EVANS**  
DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF PLANNING

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Statement of  
**MARY ALICE EVANS**  
Director, Office of Planning  
before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**  
Friday, 1/31/2020  
10:00 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 423  
  
in consideration of  
**HB 2207**  
**RELATING TO LAND USE.**

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Hashimoto and Members of the House Committee on Transportation.

The Office of Planning (OP) supports this measure that recognizes that a land use study for Hauula, Oahu is needed in order to assess mid-term solutions and long-term options and respectfully offers the following comments.

Should the measure pass, the OP Coastal Zone Management (OP-CZM) Program would support the activities in this measure and can serve as a convening and facilitating entity to identify key stakeholders across jurisdictions that have an interest in the area and would be impacted by any mid-term and long-term activities to maintain the transit corridor.

However, a land use study would be in addition to OP-CZM staff's already full-time obligations. Thus, the OP requests an appropriation in the amount of \$250,000 in order to conduct a land use study to meet the specifications as described in this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.