

TESTIMONEY AGAINST HR22

My name is Clinton Char. I and my family live on the Ewa side of University Avenue by the intersection of University Avenue and Armstrong Street. I am totally **AGAINST** – HR22 URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY OF WIDENING THE PORTION OF UNIVERSITY AVENUE BETWEEN MAILE WAY AND OAHU AVENUE

I live along University Avenue and know its traffic and pedestrian patterns 24 hours per day. Based on what I know, I feel that the widening of University Avenue between Maile Way and Oahu Avenue is totally unnecessary as it will cause safety hazards and be a waste of taxpayer's dollars. The following are my reasons:

- 1) University Avenue has always been a two lane road and traffic is normally quite manageable. Manoa Valley is currently built out to it's maximum capacity so there will not be any significant increase in people and traffic in the valley. Thus, the current traffic flow will be constant for the foreseeable future. University Avenue will not need to be widened to accommodate an increase in population of the valley as there will be no increase in population.
- 2) Due the current width of the lanes on University Avenue drivers maintain a safe slow speed as they move along University Avenue. If University Avenue is widened, drivers will have a greater width in the flow of traffic, this will lead to higher speeds which will be hazardous to pedestrians crossing University Avenue and the homes along University Avenue as the traffic will be faster and closer to the homes along University Avenue. I have lived in my home for approximately 28 years. During that time a fire hydrant in front of my house on University Avenue has been hit 2 times by drivers speeding down University Avenue. Both times the broken hydrant caused serious flooding in my home. By widening University Avenue, drivers will drive faster potentially resulting in more accidents along that stretch of road.
- 3) During the school year, Mid-Pac and UH students park along Armstrong Street and Oahu Avenue. Many times they walk up Armstrong Street and cross University Avenue to go to school. On a few occasions I have seen near accidents between the students and cars along University Avenue. If University Avenue is widened, more traffic will be flowing at a faster rate on University Avenue. This will make it much more hazardous for the students to cross safely. When considering the widening of a street, consideration must be taken for the safety of pedestrians and for the home owners who live along the street. Safety should be number 1!
- 4) The driveway for our property exists onto University Avenue. Sometimes under the current flow of traffic it is difficult to exit onto University Avenue – especially if we want to travel into the valley. If University Avenue is widened the increased lanes and higher speeds of the vehicles will make it much more difficult to exit our driveway safely.
- 5) If traffic jams up on University Avenue, there currently is an alternate road which people can use. This would be Oahu Avenue. Oahu Avenue parallels University Avenue from Maile Way to the intersection of Oahu Avenue and E. Manoa Road. With this current alternate road, why is it necessary to widen University Avenue?
- 6) If University Avenue is widened, the traffic flow into the valley will be jammed at the intersection of Oahu Avenue and E. Manoa Road. Assuming two lanes of traffic are coming into the valley on University Avenue, at the intersection E. Manoa Road and Oahu Avenue the roads are single lanes. Thus, two lanes of traffic will have to neck down into single lanes of traffic at that intersection.

Please feel free to contact me to discuss these issues in detail. Again, I am AGAINST HR22.