

1 highways, and wastes energy reserves. Typical suburban
2 development also sprawls over the countryside, destroying
3 Hawaii's natural beauty.

4 The State and the counties need to rethink their land use
5 policies to reduce dependency on the personal automobile and
6 imported oil used for travel. New policies should promote mixed
7 use pedestrian-oriented communities around transit hubs that
8 blend reasonably-priced housing, work, and shopping areas and
9 create neighborhoods that encourage walking and biking.

10 Greenbelts:

- 11 (1) Promote non-motorized transportation modes, such as
12 walking, jogging, hiking, bicycling, skating, and
13 horseback riding;
- 14 (2) Create integrated ground transportation and
15 recreational systems;
- 16 (3) Benefit urban, suburban, and rural habitats;
- 17 (4) Create and enhance recreational activities and
18 opportunities;
- 19 (5) Enhance visitor attractions and associated business
20 opportunities;
- 21 (6) Can be built using federal funding available under the
22 Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act; and



1 (7) Provide a resource guideline for further acquisition
2 of public, private, and government lands to be
3 utilized for public recreation and non-motorized
4 transit.

5 § -2 **Definition.** As used in this chapter:

6 "Greenbelts" means a linear open space established along
7 either a natural corridor, such as a stream or ridgeline, or
8 established by humans, such as a trail, road, or former railway.
9 Activities that are compatible with greenbelts include walking,
10 jogging, hiking, bicycling, skating, skateboarding, and
11 horseback riding.

12 "Steering committee" means the greenbelts strategy steering
13 committee.

14 § -3 **Development of a statewide greenbelts strategy.**

15 The department of transportation shall develop a statewide
16 greenbelts strategy that incorporates existing and proposed non-
17 motorized transportation and recreational master plans for each
18 island.

19 § -4 **Establishment of greenbelts steering committee.**

20 The statewide greenbelts strategy shall be directed by a
21 greenbelts strategy steering committee, placed within the



1 department of transportation for administrative purposes. The
2 objectives of the steering committee shall include:

3 (1) Assessing existing and potential lands for
4 beautification projects, corridors, and linkages to
5 create greenbelts on each island. These include
6 existing and former railway lines, trails, creek and
7 river corridors, roadways, and other areas that are
8 underutilized and could be converted to public
9 recreational use;

10 (2) Gathering information on other greenbelts programs
11 throughout the United States and the world;

12 (3) Facilitating the coordination of the planning and
13 implementation of greenbelts with federal, state, and
14 county agencies, businesses, and citizens;

15 (4) Facilitating the coordination of the planning of
16 sustainable communities for the State;

17 (5) Examining funding strategies from public and private
18 sources to continue the efforts of the steering
19 committee and to implement various projects;

20 (6) Proposing ways to educate and inform government
21 officials and the public on the many benefits of
22 greenbelts;



1 (7) Establishing further goals and strategies to create
2 greenbelts in Hawaii, and setting priorities for their
3 implementation through the Oahu metropolitan planning
4 organization; and

5 (8) Promoting the health, safety, and welfare of the
6 community by striving for a balance between motorized
7 and non-motorized transit systems.

8 § -5 **Action plan.** The steering committee shall develop
9 recommendations and establish an action plan containing details
10 for the further development of a greenbelts strategy, including
11 proposed timetables and budgets.

12 § -6 **Participation in the greenbelts strategy.** The
13 steering committee shall include the following members or their
14 designated representatives:

- 15 (1) The chairperson of the board of land and natural
16 resources;
- 17 (2) The director of transportation;
- 18 (3) The director of the office of planning;
- 19 (4) The director of the agency responsible for
20 transportation from each county;
- 21 (5) The director of the planning department from each
22 county;



1 (6) The chairperson of the University of Hawaii department
2 of urban and regional planning;

3 (7) A representative of a citizen activist group from each
4 of the islands, appointed by the governor from a list
5 of nominees submitted by the respective mayors; and

6 (8) A representative of a bicycle advocacy group appointed
7 by the governor.

8 § -7 **Compensation.** Members of the steering committee
9 shall serve on a voluntary basis and shall not receive
10 compensation."

11 SECTION 2. The steering committee shall submit its action
12 plan with recommendations for the further development of a
13 greenbelts strategy to the legislature no later than twenty days
14 prior to the convening of the regular session of 2008.

15 Interested parties shall be afforded ample opportunity to
16 participate in the planning, development, and implementation of
17 the recommendations of the steering committee. The steering
18 committee shall hold public meetings on all islands or, if not
19 feasible, shall accept testimony and public opinion via the
20 state video conferencing center, in the development of its
21 recommendations.



1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

2

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Report Title:

State Greenbelts Plan

Description:

Requires DOT to establish a statewide greenbelts strategy.
Establishes a steering committee.

