Maui Bicycle Alliance

Keeping Maui on the Right Path!

DATE: March 21, 2008

TO: Representative Joseph Souki, Chair

Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair

House of Representatives Committee on Transportation

FROM: Walter Enomoto, President, Maui Bicycle Alliance

HEARING DATE: Monday, March 24, 2008, 10:00 am. Room 309

SUBJECT:

Support for HCR300/HR250- ENCOURAGING THE COUNTIES TO IMPLEMENT THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S DESIGN GUIDANCE DOCUMENT ON INTEGRATING BICYCLING AND WALKING WHEN BUILDING THEIR TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE IN ORDER FOR ALL HAWAII RESIDENTS WHO CHOOSE TO WALK OR BICYCLE TO DO SO SAFELY AND EFFICIENTLY.

Support for HCR 302/HR 252- URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO ADOPT A "COMPLETE STREETS" POLICY.

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Transportation Committee,

The Maui Bicycle Alliance, a grassroots bicycling advocacy organization committed to improving conditions for bicycling in Maui County, asks for your support in passing HCR 300/HR250 and HCR 302/HR 252.

We urge the committee to support our efforts to make Hawaii a safer and healthier place to bike and walk by passing HCR 300/HR 250 and HCR 302/HR 252.

As the costs for vehicular transportation increase, providing for and increasing the options for island residents and visitors to utilize alternative methods to get around will help to ease congestion and improve traffic flow for all.

The added benefit of providing for a healthier option of transportation will help to decrease health issues associated with the lack of physical activity and should not be dismissed or underappreciated.

We need to make sure that these options are safe and holistically designed and implemented.

We would like to sincerely thank Maui Representatives Souki and Bertram and Representatives Pine and Har for introducing these important resolutions.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on these resolutions.

Walter Enomoto President Maui Bicycle Alliance

cc: Rep. Bertram

Testimony in Support of HCR302 and HCR300, and Testimony in Opposition to HCR306

Hearing Scheduled before the House Transportation Committee on Monday, 03-24-08 at 10:00 a.m. in Conference Room 309

Dear Chairman Souki, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the House Transportation Committee:

I am a member of the Hawaii Bicycle League (HBL), columnist of "Uncle Eddie's Safety Tips" in the HBL newsletter, member of the Mayor's (Honolulu) Advisory Committee on Bicycling (MACB), the Association for the Advancement of Retired Persons (AARP), and a Board Member of The Wildlife Society (TWS)-Hawaii Chapter.

I strongly support HCR302 "Complete Streets," with exception to the term "roundabouts," which many of us believe should be changed to "other amenities," all with the purpose of increasing pedestrian and bicycling safety at minimal cost, and without including unresolved and potentially divisive issues.

I strongly support HCR300, which is very similar to HR250, since a concurrent resolution seems more inclusive. One addition, the final paragraph of HCR300 needs to include that the Resolution be sent to DBEDT and DOH, and possibly other agencies referred to in the intent of the Resolution.

I would like to go on record as strongly opposing HCR306, the creation of a sustainable Interisland Transportation Task Force. With flowery language and important facts not relevant to the Resolution, the forces that be of the auto and fossil fuel complex are attempting to solve interisland sustainability, while nearly completely ignoring issues and groups affiliated with <u>intraisland</u> sustainable transportation and energy. This is guaranteed not to work.

"Pedestrians" are mentioned once in the HCR306 and bicyclists not at all. And none of the groups who have worked so hard to shepard legislation and policy in the direction of safer walking and cycling are included in the Task Force. This is a continuation of the problems contributing to transportation gridlock in our state, both on the street and in our legislative and collective consciousness. How sustainable is shipping autos around islands when nearly each island is already overinundated with cars and gridlock?

Sincerely, Ed Johnson