

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

Statement of DENISE ISERI-MATSUBARA

Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

February 3, 2020 at 2:55 p.m. State Capitol, Room 414

In consideration of S.B. 2809
RELATING TO TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT.

HHFDC <u>supports</u> S.B. 2809, provided that it does not adversely impact priorities set forth in the Executive Supplemental Budget.

As the co-chair of the Interagency Council on Transit-Oriented Development (TOD), we support the appropriation of funds to the Office of Planning for the purposes set forth in the bill. The funding will provide seed money to fund Neighbor Island TOD projects identified in the State TOD Strategic Plan for area planning, master planning, and infrastructure assessments.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.





Testimony of
Mufi Hannemann
President & CEO
Hawaii Lodging & Tourism Association

Committee on Energy , Economic Development, and Tourism Monday, February 3, 2020

Senate Bill 2809: Relating to Transit-Oriented Development

Chair Wakai and members of the Committee, mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of the Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association, the state's largest private sector visitor industry organization.

The Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association—nearly 700 members strong, representing more than 50,000 hotel rooms and nearly 40,000 lodging workers—supports Senate Bill 2809 which would authorize the Director of Finance to issue general obligation bonds in the sum of \$1,500,000, or so much thereof, as may be necessary for statewide planning and coordination for certain transit-oriented development (TOD) projects identified in the state strategic plan for transit-oriented development.

As the former mayor of the City & County of Honolulu, and the current President and CEO of the Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association, I was and continue to be a very staunch supporter of the Honolulu rail system. There are thousands of island residents employed by the visitor industry in Waikiki, and we look forward to having a rail system that will be part of a multi-modal network of transportation options. In addition to the completion of the rail system, it has been my belief from the very beginning that transit-oriented development plays a key role. TOD will help revitalize communities along the rail line, create more housing opportunities for our workers, incentivize new commercial development, and help reinforce the infrastructure throughout the rail route. For these reasons we support SB 2809.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony.



OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

MARY ALICE EVANS

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Statement of MARY ALICE EVANS

Director, Office of Planning before the



SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Monday, February 3, 2020 2:55 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 414

in consideration of SB 2809
RELATING TO TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT.

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Taniguchi, and Members of the House Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism.

The Office of Planning (OP) **strongly supports** SB 2809, which would authorize the issuance of \$1.5 million in general obligation bonds and appropriate \$1.5 million for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 to support the planning and coordination of transit-oriented development (TOD) projects identified in the *State Strategic Plan for Transit-Oriented Development (State TOD Strategic Plan)* issued by the Hawaii Interagency Council for Transit-Oriented Development.

While there is need for funds to support coordination of State and County TOD and Smart Growth planning efforts statewide, this is particularly critical for Neighbor Island counties. To-date, TOD Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) planning funds have been directed to TOD projects along the Honolulu rail corridor, and Neighbor Island TOD Council members have long been concerned about the Oahu-centric nature of State TOD planning initiatives and funding. This funding could provide needed seed money to advance Neighbor Island TOD projects in the *State TOD Strategic Plan* that require State and County collaboration for planning and implementation—funding the development of area plans and master plans and TOD infrastructure assessments.

Candidate projects are listed in the *State TOD Strategic Plan*, posted at http://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/op/lud/State-TOD-Strategic-Plan_Dec-2017-Rev-Aug-2018_rev20190715_secured.pdf, and TOD Project Fact Sheets for State TOD Plan projects are posted as well at http://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/op/lud/State-TOD-Strategic-Plan_FactSheets_Rev-Aug-2018_rev20190715_secured-20190823.pdf.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.