

MAR 06 2020

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE STATE AND THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO WORK IN PARTNERSHIP TO COMPLETE THE LEI OF GREEN FROM WAIKIKI TO WEST OAHU AS A WORKING MODEL FOR THE STATEWIDE EXPANSION OF GREEN SPACES.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii is a unique and beautiful lei of islands in
2 the Pacific Ocean and the only Pacific island state; and

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4 WHEREAS, for many, Hawaii is the ideal place to live and
5 has been second-to-none for a preferred quality of life; and

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7 WHEREAS, it is the government's responsibility, not only to
8 identify the goals of the State that are important for present
9 and future generations, but also to improve and maintain the
10 quality of life for individuals and communities and the quality
11 and sustainability of the islands for residents and visitors
12 alike; and

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14 WHEREAS, the Legislature accordingly called for a
15 comprehensive statewide plan in 1975, which was codified the
16 Hawaii State Plan, chapter 226, Hawaii Revised Statutes, in
17 1978; and

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19 WHEREAS, the unifying theme of the Hawaii State Plan is to
20 preserve and protect the healthy social, economic, and physical
21 environments that benefit the community as a whole; and

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23 WHEREAS, one of the three Hawaii State Plan goals is "[a]
24 desired physical environment, characterized by beauty,
25 cleanliness, quiet, stable natural systems, and uniqueness, that
26 enhances the mental and physical well-being of the people"; and

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28 WHEREAS, pursuant to sections 226-11 through 226-13, Hawaii
29 Revised Statutes, the plan's objectives and policies for the
30 physical environment include planning to protect land-based,
31 shoreline, and marine resources; scenic, natural beauty, and
32 historic resources; and land, air, and water quality; and
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1 WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Plan also sets priority
2 guidelines in planning for population growth and land resources,
3 including the identification of critical environmental areas in
4 Hawaii; and

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6 WHEREAS, these critical environmental areas include scenic
7 and recreational shoreline resources, open space and natural
8 areas, historic and cultural sites, and scenic resources; and

9
10 WHEREAS, climate change continues to affect the coastal
11 areas of the State, and green strategies in urban design and
12 planning are needed to adapt our shoreline communities and
13 mitigate the effects of rising sea levels; and

14
15 WHEREAS, late landscape architect Lewis Mumford introduced
16 the Lei of Green planning policy to the Honolulu City and County
17 Park Board in 1938, to promote walkability, recreation, safety
18 and connectivity within urban cities; and

19
20 WHEREAS, the Lei of Green links green parks, open space,
21 recreation areas, and greenways mauka to makai along the
22 shoreline, while interconnecting tree-lined pedestrian paths for
23 shade and climate control; and

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25 WHEREAS, the Hawaii chapter of the American Society of
26 Landscape Architects began placing greater emphasis on the Lei
27 of Green in 1999, and the Hawaii Community Development Authority
28 incorporated the policy as a guiding principle in the Kakaako
29 Makai Master Plan in 2011; and

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31 WHEREAS, a well-known example of this long-standing policy
32 is the Lei of Parks, which established through the Honolulu
33 Bicycle Master Plan in 1999. The Lei of Parks is an
34 interconnected multi-use system of public parks, green
35 recreational open spaces, and historic landscapes along
36 Honolulu's shoreline from Diamond Head to Aloha Tower; and

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38 WHEREAS, the Legislature passed Act 54, Session Laws of
39 Hawaii 2009, requiring the Department of Transportation and the
40 county transportation departments to adopt a policy of complete
41 streets. A policy of complete streets is a nationwide strategy
42 to plans and develops roadways that accommodate the safety and



1 convenience of all roadway users, including those who do not
2 drive or choose to use alternative methods of transportation;
3 and
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5 WHEREAS, in 2012, the Honolulu City Council passed
6 Ordinance 12-15, establishing a complete streets policy for the
7 City and County of Honolulu; and
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9 WHEREAS, currently there are eight complete street projects
10 in progress across Oahu, most of which cover the Waikiki, Ala
11 Moana, and Downtown Honolulu areas; and
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13 WHEREAS, the Lei of Parks remains incomplete with certain
14 gaps, which include, but are not limited to, a missing path
15 linking Ala Moana Beach Park to Kewalo Basin Park and a missing
16 path linking the west end of Kakaako Waterfront Park to Keawe
17 Street; and
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19 WHEREAS, there is a need for coordination among different
20 agencies and levels of government to ensure the continued
21 protection and preservation of the Lei of Parks and to guide the
22 future development plan for the State; now, therefore,
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24 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
25 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the State
26 and the City and County of Honolulu are urged to work in
27 partnership to complete the Lei of Green from Waikiki to West
28 Oahu to provide a working model for the statewide expansion of
29 green spaces; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as a priority of the Lei of
32 Green, the City and County of Honolulu complete the connection
33 of the Lei of Parks from Diamond Head to Aloha Tower; and
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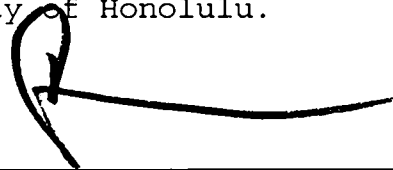
35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
36 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chairperson of the
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1 Board of Land and Natural Resources, Director of the Office of
2 Planning, and Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu.

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OFFERED BY: _____



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