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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, MAYOR OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, AND HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL TO REROUTE FARRINGTON HIGHWAY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 1998 MAKAHA BEACH PARK MASTER PLAN.

1           WHEREAS, Makaha Beach Park used to be the home of sand  
2 dunes, which were relocated to provide sand to Kaiser, Sand  
3 Island, and other beach parks in Honolulu; and  
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5           WHEREAS, international surfing champions from Makaha Beach  
6 Park include Richard "Buffalo" Keaulana, the "Queen of Makaha"  
7 Rell Sunn, Sunny Garcia, Rusty Keaulana, Duane DeSoto, and many  
8 others; and  
9

10           WHEREAS, Makaha Beach Park on Oahu's leeward coast is a  
11 favorite spot for locals and visitors, and is home to iconic  
12 surfing competitions including Buffalo's Big Board Surfing  
13 Classic, Rell Sunn's Menehune Surf Meet, Bradah Mel's Waterman's  
14 Championships, and Keiki Surf Kontest, among many others; and  
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16           WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu Department of  
17 Parks and Recreation annually lists Makaha Beach Park as one of  
18 the top-ten most visited parks on Oahu; and  
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20           WHEREAS, Farrington Highway parallels the shoreline and  
21 splits Makaha Beach Park into two halves, with the beach on the  
22 makai side of the highway and restrooms, showers, a parking lot,  
23 and a canoe hale on the mauka side of the highway; and  
24

25           WHEREAS, because the beach park is bisected by Farrington  
26 Highway, it creates unsafe conditions where beachgoers,  
27 particularly small children, frequently have to cross the busy  
28 highway to get to the beach; and



1           WHEREAS, the close proximity of Farrington Highway to the  
2 shoreline has resulted in serious damage to the highway from  
3 storms and waves; and  
4

5           WHEREAS, in 1983, strong waves eroded a portion of  
6 Farrington Highway, which cased the Department of Transportation  
7 and the City and County of Honolulu Department of Parks and  
8 Recreation to request a shore protection study from the United  
9 States Army Corps of Engineers (Engineer Corps); and  
10

11           WHEREAS, in 1985, the Engineer Corps concluded that  
12 Farrington Highway should be realigned further inland and away  
13 from the shoreline to protect the highway from future wave  
14 damage; and  
15

16           WHEREAS, subsequent to the study and recommendations from  
17 the Engineer Corps, the City and County of Honolulu acquired  
18 additional park properties mauka of Farrington Highway to expand  
19 the beach park and lobbied the State to fund the relocation of  
20 the highway further inland, which the State was unable to fund;  
21 and  
22

23           WHEREAS, in 1998 the City and County of Honolulu developed  
24 a master plan for Makaha Beach Park that proposed to reroute  
25 Farrington Highway further inland and away from the beach, as  
26 well as expanding the beach park with new picnic areas, fields,  
27 and restroom facilities; and  
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29           WHEREAS, the 1998 Makaha Beach Park master plan was never  
30 executed due to a lack of funds; and  
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32           WHEREAS, at the urging of area residents, former City  
33 Councilmember Kymberly Pine asked the Oahu Metropolitan Planning  
34 Organization to authorize a feasibility study for the potential  
35 mauka route realignment of Farrington Highway at Makaha Beach,  
36 which the organization unanimously approved; and  
37

38           WHEREAS, despite the approval for the feasibility study,  
39 the study was never executed due to a lack of funds; and  
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41           WHEREAS, beach erosion at Makaha Beach Park caused by  
42 rising sea levels and runoff from Farrington Highway has led to



1 approval of emergency permits and measures by the Department of  
2 Land and Natural Resources, including partnering with private  
3 heavy equipment operators and machine owners to move sand from  
4 the east end to the west end of the beach, to prevent further  
5 erosion; and

6  
7 WHEREAS, in 2010 the City and County of Honolulu Department  
8 of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Land and Natural  
9 Resources' Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands commissioned  
10 a study which concluded that erosion at Makaha Beach Park poses  
11 a serious safety concern and, like in the 1985 Engineer Corps  
12 study, recommended that Farrington Highway be realigned further  
13 inland to mitigate beach erosion; and

14  
15 WHEREAS, the urgency to repair the Makaha Bridge has been a  
16 public safety concern for Waianae residents for many years; and

17  
18 WHEREAS, Farrington Highway is the only transportation  
19 route to travel south in the Makaha area; and

20  
21 WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation Highways Division  
22 has proposed to replace two existing wooden bridges along  
23 Farrington Highway, Route 93, between milepost marker  
24 numbers 13.95 and 14.21 in Makaha on the Waianae Coast of Oahu;  
25 and

26  
27 WHEREAS, Makaha Bridge No. 3 and Makaha Bridge No. 3A were  
28 constructed in 1927 and currently support two eleven-foot lanes  
29 with a two-foot shoulder on the makai side of the bridge and a  
30 one-foot shoulder on the mauka side; and

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32 WHEREAS, both bridges have been classified by the  
33 Department of Transportation as deficient and require  
34 replacement; and

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36 WHEREAS, to meet existing roadway design requirements, the  
37 proposed project will require additional areas beyond the  
38 existing right-of-way to accommodate the increased bridge spans  
39 and structures necessary for embankment protection, channel  
40 widening, and guardrail improvements; and



1 WHEREAS, the proposed wider right-of-way will affect lands  
2 on the mauka and makai sides adjacent to the project site; and  
3

4 WHEREAS, the Waianae community believes placing the  
5 project's temporary bypass road on the makai side of Farrington  
6 Highway will cut off and strand residents and tourists west of  
7 the project, should the five-year flood level standard temporary  
8 roads be washed to sea by inland flooding or ocean surge; and  
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10 WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation will begin  
11 preparations for the replacement of the Makaha Bridge No. 3  
12 and 3A on March 8, 2021, starting with clearing the area makai  
13 of the existing bridge to prepare for installation of a  
14 temporary bypass; and  
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16 WHEREAS, because of this imminent construction, the issues  
17 raised by the Waianae community about the location of the  
18 temporary bypass are more pressing than ever; now, therefore,  
19

20 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
21 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
22 of 2021, that the Department of Transportation, Mayor of the  
23 City and County of Honolulu, and Honolulu City Council are urged  
24 to reroute Farrington Highway in accordance with the 1998 Makaha  
25 Beach Park Master Plan; and  
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
28 Resolution be transmitted to the members of Hawaii's  
29 Congressional Delegation, Governor, Director of Transportation,  
30 Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Mayor of  
31 the City and County of Honolulu, Chairperson of the Honolulu  
32 City Council, Executive Director of Oahu Metropolitan Planning  
33 Organization, and Chairperson of the Waianae Neighborhood Board.  
34  
35  
36

OFFERED BY: *Cal H*

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