

## OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

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Statement of MARY ALICE EVANS Director, Office of Planning before the HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING Wednesday, February 10, 2021 11:30 AM Via Videoconference

## in consideration of HB 1130 RELATING TO TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT.

Chairs Aquino and Nakamura, Vice Chairs Ilagan and Hashimoto, and Members of the House Committees on Transportation and Housing.

The Office of Planning (OP) **strongly supports** HB 1130, provided that its passage does not adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget. HB 1130 would task OP with securing consulting services to explore and develop tools and implementation strategies for alternative financing, project delivery, and cost-recovery for regional or area infrastructure improvements required to support planned transit-oriented development (TOD). The study would require consultation with key State and county decision makers and functional agencies, examine value capture mechanisms that could be used, and explore how to apply these tools at a site in each county. OP would submit its report and recommendations to the Legislature prior to the start of the 2023 legislative session.

Infrastructure deficits are one of the biggest barriers to achieving TOD potential Statewide. Funding for infrastructure investments in designated TOD areas was already constrained prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. Potential financing mechanisms were preliminarily explored in a 2020 OP study which assessed a range of potential financing options for needed infrastructure improvements in three State TOD priority areas along the rail corridor on O'ahu. Further analysis is now required to determine and refine appropriate tools and actions for financing and cost-sharing of these TOD infrastructure investments.

This bill would provide the means to develop effective strategies for TOD-serving infrastructure financing and delivery—including the strategic use of value capture mechanisms to provide infrastructure under the dire fiscal conditions facing the State and counties.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

<u>HB-1130</u> Submitted on: 2/8/2021 10:42:55 PM Testimony for TRN on 2/10/2021 11:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chad Taniguchi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We need staff expertise to make housing solutions happen with data.