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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 23, 2023
3:01 P.M.
State Capitol, Room 224 & Videoconference

S.C.R. 106/S.R. 95
URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO
CONSTRUCT ELEVATED CROSSWALKS ALONG MEHEULA PARKWAY NEAR
MILILANI HIGH SCHOOL

Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** S.C.R. 106/S.R. 95 and will provide the necessary resources for the design and installation of traffic calming measures as determined by the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) of the City and County of Honolulu.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



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SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS
Thursday, March 23, 2023 — 3:01 p.m.

Ulupono Initiative supports SCR 106, Urging the Department of Transportation and the Department of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu to Construct Elevated Crosswalks Along Meheula Parkway Near Mililani High School.

Dear Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

My name is Keith DeMello, and I am the Senior Vice President of Communications & External Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food, renewable energy and clean transportation choices, and better management of freshwater resources.

Ulupono supports SCR 106, which urges the Department of Transportation and the Department of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu to construct elevated crosswalks along Meheula Parkway near Mililani High School. Elevated crosswalks (also called raised crosswalks) have helped reduce speeds in many communities in Hawai'i in a cost-effective manner.¹ They can potentially do the same in this area.

While the elevated crosswalk is a beneficial addition, we also support further considerations and implementation to bolster pedestrian safety in the area and make it even more convenient to walk. The O'ahu Pedestrian Plan identified the nearby intersection of Meheula Parkway and Kuaahelani Avenue as a part of the "high pedestrian injury" location network. In addition to the elevated crosswalk, it may be worthwhile to consider a larger Safe Routes to School initiative that aims to improve access from all directions nearby and to expand the solution set to other Federal Highway Administration proven safety countermeasures, such as a more comprehensive road safety audit, rectangular rapid flashing beacons, leading pedestrian intervals, road diets, and protected bike lanes.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Keith DeMello
Senior Vice President of Communications & External Affairs

¹ https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/innovation/innovator/issue93/page_02.html