

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

711 KAPIOLANI BOULEVARD, SUITE 1600
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
Phone: (808) 768-8305 • Fax: (808) 768-4730 • Internet: www.honolulu.gov

RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR



J. ROGER MORTON
DIRECTOR

JON Y. NOUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TESTIMONY OF J. ROGER MORTON
DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC SAFETY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS
Friday, March 31, 2023, 3:01 PM, Via Videoconference

- TO: Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair, Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
- RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 43/SENATE RESOLUTION 37, REQUESTING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO MOVE FORWARD WITH A PEARL HARBOR HISTORIC TRAIL PILOT DEMONSTRATION PROJECT AND ENTER INTO A LONG-TERM AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES NAVY, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU AND STATE AGENCIES, TO ENSURE THE REVITALIZATION OF THE MULTI-USE TRAIL

The Department of Transportation Services (DTS) of the City and County of Honolulu (City) is in **strong support** of Senate Concurrent Resolution 43/Senate Resolution 37 (SCR 43/SR37), relating to the implementation of the Pearl Harbor Historic Trail (PHHT) pilot demonstration project.

DTS notes that ongoing congressional appropriation is funding a planning study for a 30-mile South Shore Bike Path spanning Nānākuli to Mānoa that the City is working to develop in partnership with the State Department of Transportation, of which the existing PHHT is a majority link in the bikeway. DTS also recognizes that the pilot demonstration project will be instrumental in determining and developing a working relationship between City, State, and Federal partners with respect to the shared jurisdictional property boundaries and land interests.

Although the DTS strongly supports the coordination of the PHHT as an essential multimodal connection, running parallel to the City's rail alignment, DTS does not currently have large-scale funding in place to make infrastructure improvements in our upcoming proposed FY24 budget. However, the City can move forward, with the State's partnership, in negotiating agreements with the United States Navy to resolve access issues in 'Aiea in order to provide a contiguous path on the PHHT in the areas of the Admiral's Boathouse and the Pearl Harbor Historic Monuments, with connections to our Hālawa Aloha Stadium Rail Station.

Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Testimony on SCR No 43/SR No. 37, Pearl Harbor Historic Trail Project
March 31, 2023

The DTS strongly believes that implementation of the PHHT pilot demonstration project is an integral step in completing the long-term vision of the 'Aiea-Pearl City community, and will not only link neighborhoods and historic sites, but will provide a much needed recreational opportunity for residents and visitors, enhancing their mental and physical health and well-being, while showcasing the island's visual beauty and regional attractions along the old Oahu Railway and Land Company pathway.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support.