
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A TASK FORCE BE CONVENED TO EXAMINE SUCCESSFUL PUBLIC MASS TRANSIT PROJECTS IN APPROPRIATE CITIES AND COUNTRIES AND DEVELOP OPTIONS TO REDUCE COST AND RETURN INCREASED VALUE TO RESIDENTS FROM FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE BY THE STATE FOR PUBLIC MASS TRANSIT.

1 WHEREAS, public transit is important because it has been
2 proven to reduce the cost of transit for taxpayers, reduce the
3 cost of transit for commuters, reduce traffic, reduce greenhouse
4 gas emissions, increase efficiency, increase access to new areas
5 in the urban core for housing and mixed use communities, and
6 increase jobs; and

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8 WHEREAS, funding for public mass transit projects such as
9 the City and County of Honolulu's Skyline project has
10 historically been through the county surcharge on the general
11 excise tax, of which approximately two thirds is paid for by the
12 general public and one third is paid for by visitors to the
13 State; and

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15 WHEREAS, major national and global mass transit projects
16 are typically funded through mechanisms that are designed to
17 reduce project costs on taxpayers at large, including Tax
18 Increment Financing, lease renting on land, and partnering with
19 urban developments made possible by mass transit access; and

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21 WHEREAS, the counties may find there is public benefit to
22 establishing or expanding public mass transit projects in the
23 future to serve additional areas and communities; and

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25 WHEREAS, should state funds made available for public
26 transit be considered as a source of funding for establishing or
27 expanding public mass transit projects in the future,
28 opportunities to reduce cost and increase the value to residents



1 from funds made available by the State for public mass transit;
2 now, therefore,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
5 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, the
6 House of Representatives concurring, that a task force is
7 requested to be convened to examine successful public mass
8 transit projects in appropriate cities and countries and develop
9 options to reduce costs and return increased value to Hawaii
10 residents from funds made available by the State for public mass
11 transit; and

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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair of the House of
14 Representatives Standing Committee on Transportation and the
15 Chair of the Senate Standing Committee on Transportation and
16 Culture and the Arts are requested to co-chair the task force;
17 and

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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following members or their
20 designees are requested to be included on the task force:

- 21 (1) Hawaii's congressional delegation;
- 22 (2) The Director of Transportation;
- 23 (3) The Director of Business, Economic Development, and
24 Tourism;
- 25 (4) The Coordinator of the State Transit-Oriented
26 Development Council;
- 27 (5) The Executive Director of the Oahu Metropolitan
28 Planning Organization; and
- 29 (6) Any other members the co-chairs deem appropriate; and

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
33 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
34 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than
35 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Sessions of
36 2025, 2026, and 2027; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be dissolved on
2 June 30, 2027; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to members of the Hawaii
6 congressional delegation; Director of Transportation; Director
7 of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Executive
8 Director of the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; and
9 Coordinator of the State Transit-Oriented Development Council.

