

TESTIMONY OF  
**LARRY S VERAY**

**TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS**

**IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB2015 HD1**

**RELATED TO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**March 19, 2024**

Aloha, Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye and Committee members. I am Larry Veray, Chairman for the Pearl City Neighborhood Board No. 21. I am submitting this testimony representing our board as a whole and the over 6,000 residents and families that live in Pacific Palisades in Pearl City. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of HB2015 HD1, that would require the Department of Transportation to build an emergency egress road that could potentially save thousands of lives if a disaster occurred in Pacific Palisades allowing for evacuation of residents and access for emergency response vehicles.

I want you to be aware that there are some residents in Pacific Palisades that our concerned that if this emergency egress road is built for massive evacuation, it could be converted into a daily bypass road that would negatively impact traffic for Pacific Palisades. There is also concern from some residents that their homes could be jeopardy to build this route out of Palisades. I thank you for the language in this bill that states the requirement for an emergency egress road and not a bypass road.

If there is a wild fire approaching Pacific Palisades, an egress road is needed to rapidly evacuate the 6,000 residents from this threat thus saving lives. I most strongly urge you to pass HB2015 HD1. Mahalo!

Most Respectfully.

*Larry S. Veray*