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2499 Kapiolani Boulevard
Honolulu, Hawaii 96826

Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts
Committee on Government Operations
Hearing on Friday, April 19, 2024
3:00 pm
Conference Room 225

Aloha Chairs Lee and McKelvey, Vice Chairs Inouye and Gabbard and members of the committees:

In Strong Support HCR 49

Kalihi Valley is an older community with roads and other infrastructure built before current construction standards were established. As a result, almost all the roads deeper in the valley including the main artery, Kalihi Street, are unsafe, particularly for our kupuna and disabled. Several areas along Kalihi Street cannot be walked unless you travel unto the street itself.

While we should acknowledge that it will be a very difficult project to construct sidewalks along this section of Kalihi Street, it is imperative that a feasibility study be conducted in order to determine the scope of such a project identifying such items as actions required, such as telephone pole relocation, land condemnation and costs associated with these actions. Perhaps the study would determine that separate sections of the sidewalk could be built over time; even partial improvements would go a long way to improve the safety of the residents of Kalihi Valley.