
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO WORK WITH STAKEHOLDERS
TO CONSTRUCT AN EMERGENCY ACCESS ROAD ON THE WAI'ANAЕ COAST.

1 WHEREAS, maintaining emergency access roads that provide
2 more than one way in and out of a developed area is essential to
3 public safety; and
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5 WHEREAS, emergency preparedness, evacuation plans, and
6 traffic mitigation were all mentioned among findings and
7 recommendations of the House of Representatives Lahaina Wildfire
8 Interim Schools Working Group; and
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10 WHEREAS, the devastating impacts of the Lahaina wildfire in
11 2023 were exacerbated by inaccessible emergency routes,
12 including locked gates on Kuhua Street and Old Cane Haul Road;
13 and
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15 WHEREAS, Paakea and Lualualei Naval roads currently serve
16 as the official emergency evacuation route; however, the
17 southern portion of Paakea Road is closed by a city gate, which
18 requires an authorized city employee to unlock it in the event
19 of an emergency; and
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21 WHEREAS, Paakea and Lualualei Naval roads are inadequate to
22 serve as an emergency evacuation route because, at certain
23 points, the road only allows for one lane of traffic, creating
24 significant limitations to the flow of traffic in an emergency;
25 and
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27 WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu, Department of
28 Transportation, and the military have begun discussions and
29 collaboration to make necessary improvements to Kolekole Pass;
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1 WHEREAS, Kolekole Pass is not fit to serve as an emergency
2 access route because of the danger of landslides and
3 inaccessible terrain in even the slightest rain; and

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5 WHEREAS, Farrington Highway serves as the only access road
6 in and out of Wai'anae; and

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8 WHEREAS, the public safety of the Wai'anae, Mākaha, Mā'ili,
9 and Nānākuli communities requires that an emergency access route
10 be developed and available for use as an alternative to
11 Farrington Highway; now, therefore,

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13 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
14 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
15 of 2025, that the City and County of Honolulu is urged to work
16 with the United States military, Department of Transportation,
17 and Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to develop an emergency
18 access road along the Wai'anae Coast; and

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the emergency access route
21 should benefit the communities of Wai'anae, Mākaha, Mā'ili, and
22 Nānākuli; and

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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City and County of Honolulu
25 is requested to hold community events discussing plans to
26 develop an emergency access road on the Wai'anae Coast to solicit
27 engagement of Leeward residents and encourage public
28 participation in the decision-making process; and

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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City and County of Honolulu
31 is requested to provide the plans along with a timeline for
32 completion of an alternative emergency access road along the
33 Wai'anae Coast to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
34 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2026; and

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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
37 Resolution be transmitted to the Senior Commander of the United
38 States Army Garrison, Commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-
39 Hickam, Director of Transportation, Administrator of the Hawaii
40 Emergency Management Agency, Mayor of the City and County of



1 Honolulu, and Honolulu City Councilmember representing District
2 1.

