JAN 2 3 2025

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that fostering vibrant,
- sustainable, and livable communities can support the health, 2
- 3 well-being, and connectivity of all residents. Streets and
- public spaces are invaluable resources that, when adapted for 4
- multi-use purposes, can enhance community life by providing safe 5
- and inclusive opportunities for recreation, active
- transportation, and cultural engagement. In line with this
- vision, Hawaii seeks to establish a summer streets program to 8
- 9 reimagine urban spaces, drawing inspiration from the successful
- pilot program initiated in Malmo, Sweden in 2017. 10
- The legislature further finds that Malmo's program 11
- demonstrated the transformative power of temporarily repurposing 12
- streets and public spaces into dynamic areas for pedestrian use, 13
- cycling, and community-centered activities. This initiative not 14
- only encouraged greater public participation and physical 15
- activity, but also bolstered local businesses and improved 16
- environmental outcomes. By creating similar spaces across 17



- 1 Hawaii, the State can build stronger connections between
- 2 residents, foster a sense of belonging, and promote healthier
- 3 lifestyles.
- 4 Hawaii's unique geographic and cultural landscape offers a
- 5 compelling opportunity to adapt and expand upon the Malmo model.
- 6 Beyond transforming streets, this initiative will emphasize the
- 7 importance of creating accessible public spaces that act as hubs
- 8 for social interaction, cultural events, and local markets.
- 9 These spaces will serve as central gathering points, enriching
- 10 the lives of residents and supporting a stronger sense of
- 11 community identity.
- 12 The legislature believes that this program aligns with the
- 13 State's goal of reducing carbon emissions, encouraging
- 14 sustainable transportation, and promoting community health. By
- 15 prioritizing active lifestyles and providing equitable access to
- 16 public spaces, the summer streets program will address public
- 17 health challenges, such as physical inactivity, mental well-
- 18 being, and social isolation while supporting local businesses
- 19 and reducing environmental impact.
- 20 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

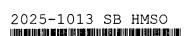


1	(1)	Require each county, in collaboration with the
2		department of transportation, to establish a summer
3		streets pilot program that temporarily closes
4		vehicular traffic and repurposes roads for pedestrian
5		and cyclist uses;
6	(2)	Require each county to submit an initial proposal to
7		the director of transportation; and
8	(3)	Appropriates funds.
9	SECT	ION 2. (a) Each county, in collaboration with the
10	department of transportation, shall establish a summer streets	
11	pilot pro	gram that temporarily closes vehicular traffic and
12	repurpose	s roads for pedestrian and cyclist use, outdoor events
13	temporary	installations, and other community-driven activities.
14	(b)	In developing the summer streets pilot program, each
15	county sh	all identify and designate specific streets for
16	pedestria	nization, prioritizing areas that will best benefit
17	from redu	ced vehicular traffic, and which are central to local
18	commerce,	cultural activities, and community engagement. The
19	summer st	reets pilot program shall support sustainable
20	transport	ation options, including the provision of bike lanes
21	and enhanced pedestrian pathways.	

- 1 (c) Each county shall submit initial proposals for the
- 2 summer street pilot program, including locations, schedule for
- 3 road closures, the types of activities and amenities to be
- 4 provided, and a breakdown of projected costs to the director of
- 5 transportation no later than December 31, 2025.
- 6 (d) The department of transportation shall submit a report
- 7 of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed
- 8 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
- 9 to the convening of the regular session of 2027.
- 10 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
- 11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much
- 12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and the
- 13 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
- 14 2026-2027 for the department of transportation to allocate to
- 15 each county for the summer streets pilot program required by
- 16 this Act.
- 17 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
- 18 of transportation for the purposes of this Act.
- 19 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

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INTRODUCED BY:



Report Title:

DOT; Counties; Summer Streets Pilot Program; Appropriation

Description:

Requires each county, in collaboration with the Department of Transportation to establish a Summer Streets Pilot Program that closes vehicular traffic and repurposes roads for pedestrian and cyclist use, outdoor events, and other community-driven activities. Requires each county to submit an initial proposal to the Director of Transportation. Appropriates funds.

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