

JAN 23 2026

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that fostering vibrant,
2 sustainable, and livable communities can support the health,
3 well-being, and connectivity of all residents. Streets and
4 public spaces are invaluable resources that, when adapted for
5 multi-use purposes, can enhance community life by providing safe
6 and inclusive opportunities for recreation, active
7 transportation, and cultural engagement. In line with this
8 vision, Hawaii seeks to establish a summer streets program to
9 reimagine urban spaces, drawing inspiration from the successful
10 pilot program initiated in Malmo, Sweden in 2017.

11 The legislature further finds that Malmo's program
12 demonstrated the transformative power of temporarily repurposing
13 streets and public spaces into dynamic areas for pedestrian use,
14 cycling, and community-centered activities. This initiative not
15 only encouraged greater public participation and physical
16 activity, but also bolstered local businesses and improved
17 environmental outcomes. By creating similar spaces across



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 a program modeled after
13 Malmo's program aligns with the State's goal of reducing carbon
14 emissions, encouraging sustainable transportation, and promoting
15 community health. By prioritizing active lifestyles and
16 providing equitable access to public spaces, the program will
17 address public health challenges, such as physical inactivity,
18 mental well-being, and social isolation while supporting local
19 businesses and reducing environmental impact.

20 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:



1 (1) Require each county, in collaboration with the Hawaii
2 community development authority, to establish a summer
3 streets pilot program that temporarily closes
4 vehicular traffic and repurposes roads for pedestrian
5 and cyclist uses; and
6 (2) Require each county to submit an initial proposal to
7 the executive director of the Hawaii community
8 development authority.

9 SECTION 2. (a) Each county, in collaboration with the
10 Hawaii community development authority, shall establish a summer
11 streets pilot program that temporarily closes vehicular traffic
12 and repurposes roads for pedestrian and cyclist use, outdoor
13 events, temporary installations, and other community-driven
14 activities.

15 (b) In developing the summer streets pilot program, each
16 county shall identify and designate specific streets for
17 pedestrianization, prioritizing areas that will best benefit
18 from reduced vehicular traffic, and that are central to local
19 commerce, cultural activities, and community engagement. The
20 summer streets pilot program shall support sustainable



1 transportation options, including the provision of bike lanes
2 and enhanced pedestrian pathways.

3 (c) Each county shall submit initial proposals for the
4 summer streets pilot program, including locations, schedule for
5 road closures, types of activities and amenities to be provided,
6 and a breakdown of projected costs to the executive director of
7 the Hawaii community development authority no later than
8 December 31, 2026.

9 (d) The Hawaii community development authority shall
10 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
11 any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than
12 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of
13 2027.

14 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
16 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for
17 the Hawaii community development authority to allocate to each
18 county for the summer streets pilot program required by this
19 Act.

20 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii
21 community development authority for the purposes of this Act.



1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

2

INTRODUCED BY: 



S.B. NO. 3029

Report Title:

HCDA; Counties; Summer Streets Pilot Program; Report;
Appropriation

Description:

Requires each county, in collaboration with the Hawaii Community Development Authority 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 Hawaii Community Development Authority. Requires a report to the Legislature. Appropriates funds.

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