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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
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Tuesday, March 31, 2026
10:00am
State Capitol, 430

HR 96 / HCR104

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO WORK WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS TO ADVANCE THE SYSTEM OF COASTAL TRAILS ON THE NORTH SHORE OF OAHU.

House Committee on Transportation

The Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) supports HR96 and HCR104 with comments which urges the Department of Transportation and the Department of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu to work with community groups to advance a system of multimodal coastal trails on the North Shore of Oahu.

The HDOT supports the intent of this measure, which is consistent with the Department's efforts to improve safety and expand multimodal transportation options. Advancing facilities for walking and bicycling aligns with HDOT priorities, including the development of the Priority Multimodal Network and commitments under the Navahine settlement.

The HDOT notes that depending on the chosen alignment, coordination with landowners will be required or eligibility for state and federal highway funding may be limited requiring additional funding sources. The Department will continue to work collaboratively with partner agencies and community stakeholders to identify and advance appropriate projects.

The HDOT also notes that implementation must be considered alongside its existing program. If projects are added this will impact resources for existing priority projects. The Department will continue to evaluate and prioritize projects within its statewide program.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
Tuesday, March 31, 2026 - 10:00am

**Hawai'i Bicycling League Strongly Supports HR96/HCR104, relating to
Coastal Trails on the North Shore of O'ahu**

Aloha Chair Kila, Vice Chair Miyake, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Eduardo Hernandez and I am the Advocacy Director of the Hawai'i Bicycling League (HBL). We are a non-profit organization founded in 1975 with the mission of enabling more people to ride bicycles for health, recreation, and transportation. We strive to create communities across our islands that have safe, accessible, and inclusive environments for people to bike, walk, and roll.

Beginning in the 1960's, communities across North America began repurposing abandoned rail lines into non-motorized transportation corridors and greenways, fostering community connectivity, economic growth, and environmental protection. Unfortunately, this movement did not take hold on O'ahu and our abandoned rail lines were further neglected and ignored, in the face of prioritization for cars.

This has resulted in terrible traffic congestion along these corridors, both on the North Shore and the Westside of O'ahu. Traffic that creates dangerous conditions for pedestrians, and imposes extraordinary costs in time and resources for residents to navigate, even short distances.

We need to begin to prioritize non-motorized and more multi-modal transportation options that are safe, affordable, and accessible. HR96/HCR104 represents an important opportunity to begin to elevate public policy considerations, so that we're not just doing the same thing we've been doing for more than 50 years, and instead looking to innovative solutions informed by local residents. HR96/HCR104 represents an important starting point to convene transportation planners, policymakers and engaged community members to realize the potential of multi-use trails, especially on the North Shore of O'ahu.

In the aftermath of recent kona low storms that produced devastating flooding on the North Shore, the need for strengthened resiliency and new emergency access routes is clear. We need to work more collaboratively, to rely on historic connections, and to identify out-of-the-box solutions that can create essential connectivity and increase safety for people. This work will be illustrative not only for communities on the North Shore of O'ahu, but indeed for communities statewide.

We urge you to unite in support of these resolutions. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Eduardo Hernandez

Advocacy Director, Hawai'i Bicycling League

HR-96

Submitted on: 3/27/2026 5:52:57 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/31/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ted Bohlen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SUPPORT!