



# KŌKUA KALIHI VALLEY COMPREHENSIVE FAMILY SERVICES

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March 1, 2016

Transportation Chair Joey Manahan  
and honorable Honolulu City Council Members

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2016 MAR -2 AM 11:09

## TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO BILL 8

Aloha,

KVIBE opposes Bill 8, but supports the intent of bettering the public process in the implementation of Complete Streets. Whether you support this bill or not, it is important to remember that such a bill would hardly have been possible in Honolulu a mere 10 years ago, simply because public consciousness regarding the importance of alternative transportation on a human scale was far from a unified political front. We have made great strides. As it is, however, Honolulu's bicycling infrastructure still lags behind comparably sized cities in the rest of the United States.

At Kōkua Kalihi Valley (KKV) we are dedicated to providing a comprehensive view of health that respects and prioritizes the traditional cultural value systems of a diverse community. At the heart of this is creating communities which are walkable, safe and create interaction among each other. Our KVIBE program has used bicycles as this mechanism to rehumanizing an urban landscape that has been designed simply for passing *through* from behind a shell of armor. Complete Streets make the community a place to be *in* and a part *of*. Like the "slow food" movement that draws its own motivations from personal empowerment and social and environmental reconnection, so too does the Complete Streets movement feed a sense of community. It is a "slow movement" movement. We instill in our cyclists the idea that bicycling builds self-confidence, re-establishes social connection, and creates a place of personal vulnerability that demands riders demonstrate a heightened awareness of, respect for, and compassion toward the world around them, and that by doing so, the world around them becomes a better place.

This is why KVIBE opposes Bill 8: because it prolongs the risks to future generations that all of us today, as a unified movement, have made such tremendous strides toward alleviating. While we respect and are grateful for the City Council's desire for increased involvement in the matter of the Complete Streets Initiative, the passage of Bill 8 would represent an unnecessary backpedaling during a time of such remarkable, responsible progress and proactive momentum that all of us-- particularly you, our lawmakers-- should be proud of. Let's continue moving forward together!

Mahalo nui loa for your fantastic support thus far and for consideration of our opposition to Bill 8.

Joel van Allen, Program Coordinator  
Kalihi Valley Instructional Bike Exchange (KVIBE)  
Kōkua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services

