

HAWAII COMPLETE STREETS COALITION

Item #1
Bill 8 (2016)

Member Organizations:

- AARP Hawaii
- American Diabetes Association
- American Heart Association
- American Planning Association
- American Society of Landscape Architects
- Better Blocks Hawaii
- Bikeshare Hawaii
- Blue Planet Foundation
- Blue Zones Project
- Cancer Action Network
- Cycle On Hawaii
- Hawaii Bicycling League
- Hawaii Department of Health
- Hawaii Pacific Health
- Hawaii Public Health Association
- Hawaii Public Health Institute
- Injury Prevention Advisory Committee
- Kailua Urban Design Task Force
- Kaiser Permanente
- Kekua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services
- Pioneering Healthier Communities
- Sierra Club Hawaii
- SSFM International

Date: March 2, 2016
 To: Honolulu City Council Transportation Committee
 Joey Manahan, Chair
 Re: Bill 8, Relating to Complete Streets

RECEIVED
 CITY CLERK
 O & C OF HONOLULU
 2016 MAR -2 PM 1:27

Chair Manahan and Committee Members, my name is Tom Dinell. My testimony on Bill 8 is presented on behalf of the Hawaii Complete Streets Coalition.

The Hawaii Complete Streets Coalition is a group of organizations and businesses committed to making Hawaii's streets safer for people of all ages and abilities to walk, bike, take transit and drive. We oppose Bill 8 in its current form.

We are encouraged by last week's meetings with Councilmembers Manahan, Ozawa and Fukunaga . It is our understanding that Bill 8 is to be deferred to allow the Council to work collaboratively with the Hawaii Complete Streets Coalition, the Department of Transportation Services, and other key stakeholders to devise language that will improve communication and transparency among the departments, the Council, and the public by providing increased and more effective opportunities for public input. The Coalition looks forward to working with the Honolulu City Council and the Department of Transportation Services to improve Article 33 of Chapter 14 of the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, namely, the Complete Streets Statute.

The Complete Streets Ordinance mandates that the needs of all users be taken into consideration in the planning and design of all street projects, whether they be maintenance, remediation, or new construction. It requires the four city departments that work with the county's roadways to use an interdepartmental checklist to assess opportunities to improve travel and safety for all users of our streets.

We note for the record that Bill 8 would not improve the Complete Streets endeavor. Requiring every checklist and every manual and guideline to be reviewed and approved or rejected by the Council would create a legislative quagmire and introduce delays, ambiguousness, and uncertainty into achieving the objectives of the Complete Streets Program. There needs to be and is a better way to achieve the implicit intent of Bill 8, namely, greater transparency and opportunities for participation than that proffered by its current language.

We oppose Bill 8 as presently written. We request that the Committee defer the bill so that we can work together on a solution that will improve the public participation process and thus lead to the kinds of Complete Streets outcomes that we all desire.