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## RESOLUTION

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URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES TO CONSIDER REMOVING THE AFTERNOON PEAK TRAFFIC HOURS CONTRAFLOW LANE ON KAPIOLANI BOULEVARD AND EXPLORE ALTERNATE OPTIONS TO DEAL WITH CONGESTION ON THIS IMPORTANT ARTERIAL ROADWAY.

WHEREAS, a contraflow lane is intended to alleviate heavy traffic during peak traffic hours by reversing the normal traffic flow direction in one or more lanes through the use of removable barriers, tubing or cones; and

WHEREAS, the City currently sets up contraflows lanes on Kapiolani Boulevard and Ward Avenue, as well as on Kalaniana'ole Highway under a contract with the State Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the contraflow lane on Kapiolani Boulevard was first instituted in 1952 and has been utilized ever since during both morning and afternoon peak traffic hours; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the weekday morning contraflow lane on Kapiolani Boulevard, from South Street to Waialae Avenue, the City also sets up a similar though shorter contraflow lane in the afternoon peak traffic hours between 3:30 and 6:00 p.m., which increases the number of lanes in the eastbound direction, while decreasing the number of lanes in the westbound direction; and

WHEREAS, although the morning contraflow lane appears to be operating smoothly without major complaints, increasing anecdotal reports from Kapiolani Boulevard westbound motorists traveling during the afternoon peak traffic hours suggest that these commuters and residents are prevented or severely hindered from making necessary left turns in the makai direction because of the contraflow lane; and

WHEREAS, with the increased residential development of the Ala Moana and Kakaako neighborhoods adjacent or in proximity to Kapiolani Boulevard, more and more west-bound motorists on Kapiolani Boulevard have travel destinations that are makai of this roadway; and

WHEREAS, because the traffic situation on Kapiolani Boulevard is markedly different from what it was in 1952 when the Kapiolani Boulevard contraflow lane was first instituted and major improvements to other east-west arterials and collector streets such as the H-1 Freeway and Queen Street, have since been completed, it behooves the City to review the effectiveness of the contraflow lane system in addressing and



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alleviating traffic congestion, with an analysis of the current benefits balanced against any downside impacts; and

WHEREAS, according to the OahuMPO website, a planning study entitled "Contra-Flow Update Study," is 96% complete and will, among other things, assist the Department of Transportation Services in determining if any alterations should be made to the current contraflow lane system; and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that although contraflow lanes can be beneficial to motorists in certain situations and times, changing conditions that result in negative impacts necessitate the need to review the current contraflow lane system and consider other options to alleviate traffic congestion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that it urges the Department of Transportation Services to consider removing the afternoon peak traffic hours traffic contraflow lane on Kapiolani Boulevard and explore options for dealing with congestion on this important arterial roadway; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council urges the Department of Transportation Services, as it considers its long-term options, to report to the Council on immediate steps that can be taken to address the problem of westbound motorists on Kapiolani Boulevard who need to turn left through the contraflow setup during the afternoon peak traffic hours; and



RESOLUTION

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the Managing Director, and the Director of Transportation Services.

*[Handwritten Signature]*

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DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

**AUG 4 2016**

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Honolulu, Hawaii

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Councilmembers

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII  
CERTIFICATE

**RESOLUTION 16-198**

Introduced: 08/04/16 By: TREVOR OZAWA

Committee: TRANSPORTATION

Title: RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES TO CONSIDER REMOVING THE AFTERNOON PEAK TRAFFIC HOURS CONTRAFLOW LANE ON KAPIOLANI BOULEVARD AND EXPLORE ALTERNATE OPTIONS TO DEAL WITH CONGESTION ON THIS IMPORTANT ARTERIAL ROADWAY.

Voting Legend: \* = Aye w/Reservations

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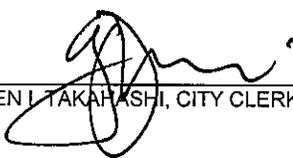
08/25/16 TRANSPORTATION CR-282 - RESOLUTION REPORTED OUT OF COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION.

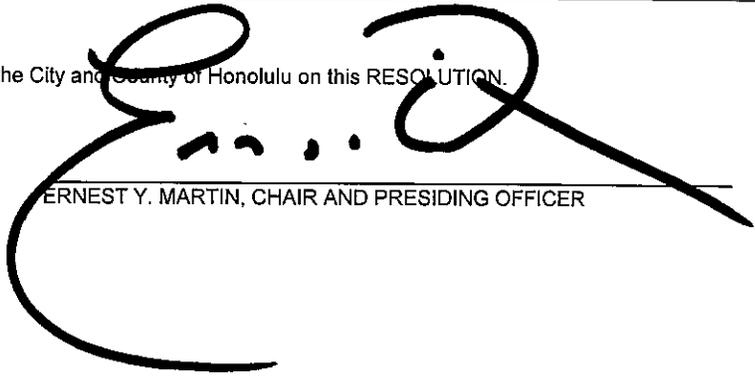
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09/07/16 COUNCIL CR-282 AND RESOLUTION 16-198 WERE ADOPTED.  
9 AYES: ANDERSON, ELEFANTE, FUKUNAGA, KOBAYASHI, MANAHAN, MARTIN, MENOR, OZAWA, PINE.

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I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this RESOLUTION.

  
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GLEN I. TAKAHASHI, CITY CLERK

  
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ERNEST Y. MARTIN, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER