June 18, 2018

The Honorable Trevor Ozawa, Chair
Committee on Budget
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Ozawa:

SUBJECT: Resolution 18-109, Dockless Multimodal Transportation

I apologize for our department’s late response to the Committee on Budget’s recommendation regarding Resolution 18-109.

The administration appreciates the Committee’s willingness to allow the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) to propose amendments to Resolution 18-109, but given the Committee’s discussion and at Mayor Caldwell’s request, I am convening an Urban Mobility Working Group (UMWG), which will address the growing field of urban mobility devices and services including bicycles, scooters, Segways, carshare, transit, and rideshare. We plan to engage City Departments, the City Council, and industry stakeholders to better understand the coming options and how we may be best prepared to welcome and implement new modes of micro and macro transportation in our City.

It is of great priority to ensure all of these modes and even those not yet contemplated can be smoothly integrated with DTS’ responsibility to maintain and promote well-connected multimodal options and well-managed City infrastructure. These efforts’ genesis in the UMWG will support the intent of Resolution 18-109 by offering “first- and last-mile’ commuter options,” supporting the “innovation that continues to evolve in flexible transportation systems,” and could lead to well-defined and fair pilot projects beneficial to Honolulu’s residents.
We have already started our conversations with our colleagues in multiple cities across the United States on dockless scooters, bikes, and future innovations; I have directly been in frequent conversations with active transport professionals in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, Salt Lake City, Denver, Dallas, and Charlotte. We will continue to explore enabling ways to enhance mobility in Honolulu.

DTS looks forward to productive and meaningful discussions within this working group and with the City Council on all modes that have, do, and will impact our streets, curbs, and sidewalks for the safety and benefit of all.

Should you have any questions, please call me at 768-8304.

Very truly yours,

Jon Y. Nouchi
Deputy Director

APPROVED:

Roy K. Amemiya, Jr.
Managing Director