

CITY COUNCIL CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

HONOLULU, HAWAI'I

No. <u>23</u> - 42

RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HONOLULU AUTHORITY FOR RAPID TRANSPORTATION AND THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO PREPARE A STUDY EVALUATING PARKING AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS FOR THE WAIAWA (PEARL HIGHLANDS) RAIL STATION.

WHEREAS, on December 19, 2012, the City and County of Honolulu ("City") and the Federal Transit Administration ("FTA") entered into a Full Funding Grant Agreement ("FFGA") that secured \$1.55 billion in federal funding for the Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project ("Rail Project"); and

WHEREAS, as described in the FFGA, the Rail Project includes a 20-mile elevated guideway, 21 rail stations, and 20 four-car trains traveling from East Kapolei through downtown Honolulu to Ala Moana Center; and

WHEREAS, after the FFGA was executed, the Revised Charter of the City and County of Honolulu 1973 was amended to establish the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation ("HART"), with authority to develop the Rail Project consistent with the route established by the City Council ("Council"); and

WHEREAS, when it appeared that available local funding from the State of Hawai'i ("State") and the City would not be sufficient to allow the City to complete the Rail Project as described in the FFGA, the FTA notified the City that, in order to receive the remainder of the federal funding earmarked for the Rail Project, the City would have to submit, for FTA approval, a Recovery Plan demonstrating the City's financial capacity to complete the Rail Project as described in the FFGA; and

WHEREAS, in September 2022, the FTA approved HART's 2022 Recovery Plan, which modified the Project as described in the FFGA by reducing the Project's scope and deferring construction of the planned 1,600-stall Waiawa (Pearl Highlands) parking garage ("Pearl Highlands parking garage"); and

WHEREAS, the Pearl Highlands parking garage was intended to be a major intermodal facility connecting commuters coming from Central O'ahu and the North Shore via the H-2 freeway to the Rail Project; and

WHEREAS, a significant cost factor for the Pearl Highlands parking garage is its location over an existing stream, requiring expensive foundations that HART has indicated would result in a construction cost of more than \$200,000 per parking stall; and



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WHEREAS, in the 2022 Recovery Plan, HART suggested that some Central O'ahu and North Shore residents who would otherwise have used the Pearl Highlands parking garage to access the Project could utilize existing park-and-ride lots in Wahiawā and Mililani Mauka before bussing to the Waiawa (Pearl Highlands) rail station ("Pearl Highlands station"), while other residents of these regions could take the bus directly to the Pearl Highlands station; and

WHEREAS, HART has also explored the use of nearby parking facilities at Leeward Community College and the Pearl Highlands Center as potential alternatives to the Pearl Highlands parking garage; and

WHEREAS, several neighborhood boards have approved resolutions supporting the construction of the Pearl Highlands parking garage, including the Mililani Mauka/Launani Valley Neighborhood Board No. 35, the Pearl City Neighborhood Board No. 21, and the Waipahu Neighborhood Board No. 22; and

WHEREAS, HART and the City Administration have stated that the Pearl Highlands parking garage construction remains part of a future phase of the Rail Project, subject to the availability of funding; and

WHEREAS, the Council believes that convenient access to the Rail Project, particularly for City residents who do not have rail stations planned for their communities, is critical for ensuring the success of the project; and

WHEREAS, the Council also believes that a comprehensive study needs to be conducted to evaluate parking options for the Pearl Highlands station and to evaluate other transportation options for Central O'ahu and North Shore residents to access the Project, which study should identify the most efficient and cost-effective approaches to providing access to the Rail Project for those residents; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation and the City Administration, including the Department of Transportation Services, are requested to work together to prepare a study evaluating parking and other transportation options to serve the Waiawa (Pearl Highlands) rail station and to submit the results of the study to the City Council by December 31, 2023; and

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BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, the Director of Transportation Services; and the Executive Director and CEO of the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation, and the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation.

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:	
MAR 2 2 2023 Honolulu, Hawai'i	Councilmembers

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CITY COUNCIL CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU HONOLULU, HAWAII C E R T I F I C A T E

RESOLUTION 23-42

Introduced:	03/22/23	By:	MATT WEYER AUGIE TULBA	Committee:	TRANSPORTATION (TRANS)
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REQUESTING THE HONOLULU AUTHORITY FOR RAPID TRANSPORTATION AND THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO Title: PREPARE A STUDY EVALUATING PARKING AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS FOR THE WAIAWA (PEARL HIGHLANDS) RAIL STATION.

03/22/23	INTRO	Introduced.
04/04/23	TRANS	Reported out for adoption.
		CR-94
		4 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĂINA, OKIMOTO
		1 ABSENT: TUPOLA
04/19/23	CCL	Committee report and Resolution were adopted.
		9 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ÄINA, OKIMOTO, SAY, TULBA, TUPOLA, WATERS, WEYER

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.

HI, CITY CLERK GL

TOMMY WATERS, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER