

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Voting Members:

Tyler Dos Santos-Tam, Chair; Radiant Cordero, Vice-Chair;
Esther Kia'aina, Val A. Okimoto, Andria Tupola

Committee Meeting Held
September 24, 2024

Honorable Tommy Waters
Chair, City Council
City and County of Honolulu

Mr. Chair:

Your Committee on Transportation, which considered Resolution 24-203 entitled:

**"RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO DESIGNATE
THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AS THE PRIMARY
GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY HAVING JURISDICTION OVER FORT STREET
MALL AND UNION MALL,"**

introduced on August 12, 2024, reports as follows:

The purpose of Resolution 24-203 is to request that the City Administration designate the Department of Transportation Services as the primary governmental authority having jurisdiction over Fort Street Mall and Union Mall, and to use the authority under Section 4-202 of the Charter to exclude these Malls from the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks and Recreation.

The Director of the Department of Transportation Services testified in support of the measure.

Your Committee considered and approved a CD1 version of the Resolution that makes the following amendments:

- A. Adds a third Be It Further Resolved clause urging the DPR and DTS to enter into a memorandum of agreement to facilitate the transition of the jurisdiction over the two malls.

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

Ke Kanihela o ke Kalana o Honolulu

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ADOPTED ON OCT 09 2024

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 287

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Voting Members:

Tyler Dos Santos-Tam, Chair; Radiant Cordero, Vice-Chair;
Esther Kia'āina, Val A. Okimoto, Andria Tupola

Committee Meeting Held
September 24, 2024
Page 2

B. Makes miscellaneous technical and nonsubstantive amendments.

Your Committee on Transportation is in accord with the intent and purpose of Resolution 24-203, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as Resolution 24-203, CD1. (Ayes: Cordero, Dos Santos-Tam, Kia'āina, Okimoto – 4; Noes: None; Absent: Tupola – 1.)

Respectfully submitted,

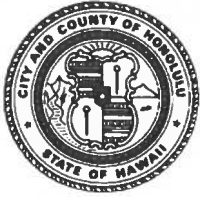


Committee Chair

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
Ke Kanihela o ke Kalana o Honolulu
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ADOPTED ON OCT 09 2024

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 287



HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

No. 24-203, CD1

RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO DESIGNATE THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AS THE PRIMARY GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY HAVING JURISDICTION OVER FORT STREET MALL AND UNION MALL.

WHEREAS, Fort Street in Honolulu was the retail and business center of O'ahu throughout the 1800s, and until the 1950s Fort Street hosted some of the largest retail stores in Hawai'i, such as Kress, Woolworths, and Liberty House; and

WHEREAS, after World War II, however, the downtown Honolulu business area gradually declined due to factors such as the opening of Ala Moana Shopping Center and increased development in O'ahu's suburban areas and Waikīkī; and

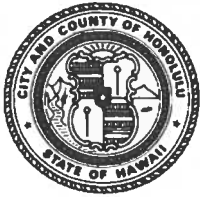
WHEREAS, in response, efforts were made to revitalize downtown Honolulu, including plans to redevelop Fort Street into a pedestrian mall to encourage shoppers to frequent O'ahu's central business district; and

WHEREAS, Fort Street Mall was constructed through an improvement district pursuant to Resolution 19 (1968), adopted on January 16, 1968, which created, defined, and established "Improvement District Number Two Hundred Six – Fort Street, from South Beretania Street to Queen Street" and Ordinance 3172, approved on May 9, 1968, which set the cost and assessments for the improvements of the Fort Street Mall Improvement District; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 02-48, approved on October 10, 2002, established the Fort Street Mall Special Improvement District No. 2 to provide for and finance supplemental services and improvements for Fort Street Mall; and

WHEREAS, the Fort Street Mall Business Improvement District Plan, attached to Ordinance 02-48 as Exhibit A, states, in part: "The Fort Street Mall Business Improvement District shall work in partnership with government to develop and implement programs that promote the overall vitality of Fort Street Mall by strengthening its role as a first-class business area"; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 2401, approved on September 20, 1963, established the portion of Union Street between Bishop and Hotel Streets as a pedestrian mall (hereinafter "Union Mall") for the purposes of improving traffic safety and providing convenience for the shopping public; and



HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

No. 24-203, CD1

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Fort Street Mall and Union Mall are currently well-frequented pedestrian corridors with adjacent apartments, restaurants, offices, college buildings, shops, and regular open markets, with access to the major bus transit lines running along Hotel Street; and

WHEREAS, recently, new projects have been developed or are being proposed on or near Fort Street Mall and Union Mall that have contributed and will contribute to the revitalization of downtown Honolulu, including: the AC Hotel by Marriott Honolulu, a 240-room hotel at 1125 Nimitz Highway, the Residences at Bishop Place, Kekaulike Mall improvements, the Hale Kamiano senior affordable housing project, and the Fort Street Walmart acquisition and redevelopment; and

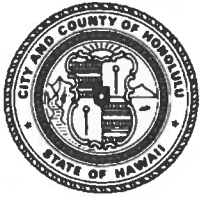
WHEREAS, Chapter 13, Article 10, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("ROH"), authorizes the Department of Parks and Recreation to issue permits for the use of malls, as well as to preserve and upgrade malls' aesthetic aspects, and the Department of Transportation Services to control and coordinate vehicular traffic on malls; and

WHEREAS, consequently, Fort Street Mall and Union Mall are subject to restrictions on mall use, such as limitations on outdoor dining, sidewalk sales, and the number and frequency of events, that may hamper the development of business promotion activities at Fort Street Mall and Union Mall and the revitalization of downtown Honolulu; and

WHEREAS, Section 4-202, Revised Charter of the City and County of Honolulu 1973 (Amended 2017 Edition), as amended ("Charter"), effectively authorizes only the Mayor to initiate changing the duties or functions of existing departments and agencies of the executive branch; and

WHEREAS, the Council believes that providing the Department of Transportation Services with primary jurisdiction over Fort Street Mall and Union Mall would result in the activation of Fort Street Mall and Union Mall and have a strong, positive impact on the revitalization of downtown Honolulu, including greater area foot traffic and increased patronage of downtown businesses; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that the City Administration is requested to designate the Department of Transportation Services as the primary governmental authority over Fort Street Mall and Union Mall; and



HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

No. 24-203, CD1

RESOLUTION

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor is requested to use the authority under Section 4-202 of the Charter to exclude Fort Street Mall and Union Mall from the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks and Recreation, designate the Department of Transportation with primary authority over both malls, and transmit a proposal therefor to the Council for its consideration; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor need not propose the removal of the Department of Parks and Recreation's regulatory authority over any other mall or the removal of the Department of Transportation Services' regulatory authority over Fort Street Mall, Union Mall, or any other mall subject to Chapter 13, Article 10, ROH; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Transportation Services are urged to enter into a memorandum of agreement to further facilitate the transition of primary jurisdiction over Fort Street Mall and Union Mall; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, the Director of Parks and Recreation, and the Director of Transportation Services.

INTRODUCED BY:

Tyler Dos Santos Tam

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

August 12, 2024
Honolulu, Hawai'i

Councilmembers

Report Title:

Malls; Fort Street Mall; Union Mall; Business Improvement District; Department of Parks and Recreation ("DPR"); Department of Transportation Services ("DTS"); Downtown; Reorganization

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.