SUMMARY OF PROPOSED FLOOR DRAFT:

Resolution 25-210
AUTHORIZING PROMOTIONAL TRANSIT FARES AND SPECIAL HOLO CARD DISTRIBUTION FOR THE OPENING OF SEGMENT 2 OF THE SKYLINE RAIL PROJECT.

The PROPOSED FD1 makes the following amendments:

A. Changes the opening date of Segment 2 of the Skyline rail system ("Segment 2") from October 1, 2025 to on or about October 15, 2025.

B. Amends the suspended fare dates from October 4, 2025 to October 18, 2025, and from October 5, 2025 to October 19, 2025, provided that Segment 2 service commences on or about October 15, 2025.

C. Adds a new sixth WHEREAS clause to provide that if Segment 2 service commences after October 15, 2025, the suspended fares would instead occur on the first consecutive Saturday and Sunday following the date of commencement of services for Segment 2.

D. Adds references to Section 15B-2.1(d), Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021, to clarify the City's authority to suspend fares, and makes conforming amendments to the BE IT RESOLVED clause.

E. Makes miscellaneous technical and nonsubstantive amendments.

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

No. **25-210, FD1**

PROPOSED

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING PROMOTIONAL TRANSIT FARES AND SPECIAL HOLO CARD DISTRIBUTION FOR THE OPENING OF SEGMENT 2 OF THE SKYLINE RAIL PROJECT.

WHEREAS, on or about Wednesday, October 15, 2025, the City and County of Honolulu ("City"), through its Department of Transportation Services ("DTS"), will inaugurate operations of Segment 2 of the Skyline rail system ("Segment 2"), to extend service to four new stations, including Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (Makalapa), Daniel K. Inouye International Airport (Lelepaua), Lagoon Drive (Āhua), and the Middle Street Transit Center (Kahauiki); and

WHEREAS, this expansion represents a significant milestone in the development of the City's multimodal transportation network, offering increased connectivity to major employment centers, including Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam ("JBPHH") and the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport ("Airport"); and

WHEREAS, to promote public ridership of TheBus and Skyline in these newly served areas, the DTS proposes a promotional fare program authorized under Sections 15B-2.1(d) and 15B-2.6(a)(1), Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021, which respectively allow the DTS Director to: (a) allow a person to board a City transit system vehicle or enter a designated paid fare area without being charged a fare as part of a promotional offer or package made available by the City; and (b) suspend certain transit fares for promotional purposes with City Council approval, provided that the suspension of fares does not exceed a period of one week and does not decrease the total average monthly fare collection, when full fares are collected, by more than 5 percent; and

WHEREAS, the promotional program would include the distribution of up to 50,000 commemorative HOLO cards, each affixed to a specially designed brochure highlighting transit options for JBPHH and Airport area employees, and each pre-loaded with a free one-day transit pass that must be activated and used no later than December 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the targeted distribution of these commemorative HOLO cards, the DTS proposes to suspend fares for all users of Skyline, TheBus, and TheHandi-Van on Saturday, October 18, 2025 and Sunday, October 19, 2025 to celebrate the launch of Segment 2 and to encourage broad community participation and use of the expanded multimodal transportation system; provided that Segment 2 service commences on or about October 15, 2025; and

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, in the event that Segment 2 service commences after October 15, 2025, the DTS proposes to suspend fares for all users of Skyline, TheBus, and TheHandi-Van on the first consecutive Saturday and Sunday following the date that Segment 2 service commences; and

WHEREAS, the estimated revenue loss to the City from this promotional fare program is approximately $42,000, representing about 1 percent of expected monthly transit fare revenue; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that:

1. Pursuant to Section 15B-2.6(a)(1), Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("ROH"), the Council hereby approves the Director of Transportation Services' request to suspend transit fares for promotional purposes as described herein; and

2. The Director of Transportation Services is authorized to implement a one-time promotional fare program in support of the opening of Segment 2 of the Skyline rail system ("Segment 2"), including:

    - The production and distribution of up to 50,000 commemorative HOLO cards, each including a free one-day pass pursuant to ROH Section 15B-2.1(d), to be used on or before December 31, 2025;

    - The attachment of each HOLO card to a transit informational brochure focused on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and Daniel K. Inouye International Airport workers; and

    - The institution of a system-wide suspension of transit fares for all services—Skyline, TheBus, and TheHandi-Van—on October 18 and 19, 2025, or on the first consecutive Saturday and Sunday following the date that Segment 2 service commences; and

RESOLUTION

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in accordance with ROH Section 15B-2.6(c), within 60 days after the conclusion of the two-day suspension of fares, the Department of Transportation Services shall submit a written report to the Council that includes, at a minimum, the following information:

1. The community benefits gained from the project, including an estimate, where possible, of the number of new daily riders of the City transit services, including rail, bus system, or special transit services, resulting from the project;

2. Data on the number of riders using City transit services during the promotional period and the cost to the City of the project;

3. The overall success or failure of the project based on the program objectives set forth in this resolution; and

4. Recommendations regarding any future actions related to similar promotional or demonstration projects; and

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

No. **25-210, FD1**

RESOLUTION

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, the Director of Transportation Services, the Director of the State of Hawai‘i Department of Transportation, and the Commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

INTRODUCED BY:

Tommy Waters (br)

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

July 30, 2025
Honolulu, Hawai‘i

Councilmembers

Report Title:
Promotional Transit Fares; Fares Suspension; HOLO Card; Department of Transportation Services ("DTS"); Skyline Rail Project; TheBus; TheHandi-Van; Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam ("Makalapa"); Daniel K. Inouye International Airport ("Lelepaua"); Lagoon Drive ("Āhua"); Middle Street Transit Center ("Kahauiki")

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