

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
KA 'OIHANA LAWELAWA 'ŌHUA
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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November 19, 2025

The Honorable Tommy Waters
Chair and Presiding Officer
and Members
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Waters and Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Bill 71 (2025) Relating to Shared Streets

The Department of Transportation Services ("DTS") is highly supportive of shared streets and street designs that prioritize pedestrians over motor vehicles within the right urban context, however, DTS opposes Bill 71, which proposes a new process for designating shared street areas. DTS and the Hawaii State Department of Transportation already have the authority under existing City ordinance and State law to design and build shared streets. If adopted, this bill will in fact slow and potentially risk the success of shared street projects by adding more requirements and layers of government approvals.

Additionally, as shared in previous communication, there are various Hawai'i Revised Statutes that should be reviewed in light of typical pedestrian and driver interactions on shared streets. DTS has also been advised by the Corporation Counsel's office that a number of terms proposed by the bill are inconsistent with existing State law and City ordinance.

While we appreciate the Council's dedication to safe streets and quality public spaces on our island, we cannot support this measure at this time.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Roger Morton", is written over a horizontal line.

J. Roger Morton
Director

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael D. Formby", is written over a horizontal line.

Michael D. Formby, Managing Director
Office of the Managing Director

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