SUMMARY OF PROPOSED COMMITTEE DRAFT:

Bill 48 (2025)
RELATING TO PEDESTRIAN MALLS.

The PROPOSED CD1 makes the following amendments:

A. Deletes SECTION 2 of the bill and renumbers subsequent SECTIONS of the bill accordingly.

B. In renumbered SECTION 2 of the bill (which amends ROH Section 15-25.1):

1. Deletes proposed new subsection (d) of the bill which established a portion of Chaplain Lane as a pedestrian mall; and instead amends subsection (a) to expand Fort Street Mall to include the segment of South Pauahi Street beginning from the intersection of Fort Street and South Pauahi Street and ending at northwestern property line of the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-003:009 that abuts the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-003:010; and that segment of Chaplain Lane beginning from the intersection of Fort Street and Chaplain Lane and ending at the northwestern property line of the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-003:008 that abuts the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-003:010;

2. Amends subsection (b)(2)(H)(i) by allowing the use of a bicycle on Fort Street Mall at a speed no greater than 10 miles per hour and prohibiting engaging in dangerous behavior while on a bicycle on Fort Street Mall; and

3. Adds a new subsection (c)(6) that allows the use of a bicycle at a speed no greater than 10 miles per hour and prohibits engaging in dangerous behavior while on a bicycle on College Walk and River Street Malls.

C. Amends the effective date in renumbered SECTION 4 of the bill to be July 1, 2026 (rather than December 1, 2025).

D. Makes miscellaneous technical and nonsubstantive amendments.

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ORDINANCE _____

BILL **48 (2025), CD1**

PROPOSED

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE

RELATING TO PEDESTRIAN MALLS.

BE IT ORDAINED by the People of the City and County of Honolulu:

SECTION 1. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to address pedestrian malls in the downtown Honolulu area.

SECTION 2. Section 15-25.1, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 15-25.1 Establishment of pedestrian malls.

(a) *Union Mall.* That portion of Union Street extending from Bishop to Hotel Streets in downtown Honolulu is closed to vehicular traffic and is established as a pedestrian mall.

(1) *Vehicular restrictions.* Except as [~~hereinafter provided, it is unlawful for any~~] provided in this subsection, a person [~~to~~] may not park, [~~or~~] cause to be parked, [~~or to~~] operate or propel, or cause to be operated or propelled, any vehicle (as defined in this traffic code) upon the mall [~~hereinabove~~] established[~~:~~] in this subsection:

(A) Any person legally entitled as owner, lessee, invitee, or licensee to operate or propel a vehicle in the alley situated on the mauka end of the mall within the easement between the lots [~~bearing the~~] identified as tax map [~~designation 2-1-10-15~~] keys 2-1-010:015 and [~~2-1-10-42 shall be permitted to~~] 2-1-010:042, may operate or propel such vehicle, for purposes of ingress and egress, over the portion of the mauka end of the mall between the alley and Bishop Street, the width of which [~~shall be~~] are parallel lines connecting the alley to Bishop Street; provided that entry and exit to and from the alley [~~shall~~] must be from and to Bishop Street only;

(B) [~~It is lawful to~~] A person may operate or propel a vehicle, for purposes of ingress and egress, over the portion of the mauka end of the mall between the lot [~~bearing the~~] identified as tax map [~~designation 2-1-10-15~~] key 2-1-010:015 and Bishop Street. The director of transportation services shall designate the width of the passageway. In determining the width of the passageway, the

director of transportation services shall take into consideration pedestrian safety and adequate ingress and egress for the highrise office/retail complex using the lot [~~2-1-10-15.~~] identified as tax map key 2-1-010:015. Entry and exit to and from the lot [~~bearing the~~] identified as tax map [~~designation 2-1-10-15 shall~~] key 2-1-010:015 must be from and to Bishop Street only; and

(C) The speed limit upon the mall [~~shall not exceed~~] is 5 miles per hour.

(b) *Fort Street Mall.* That portion of Fort Street extending from the makai side of Beretania Street to the mauka side of Queen Street [~~is~~]; the segment of South Pauahi Street beginning from the intersection of Fort Street and South Pauahi Street and ending at northwestern property line of the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-003:009 that abuts the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-003:010; and that segment of Chaplain Lane beginning from the intersection of Fort Street and Chaplain Lane and ending at the northwestern property line of the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-003:008 that abuts the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-003:010, are closed to vehicular traffic and [~~is~~] are established as a pedestrian mall.

(1) *Vehicular restrictions.* Except as [~~hereinafter~~] provided[~~, it is unlawful for any~~] in this subsection, a person [~~to~~] may not park, [~~or~~] cause to be parked, [~~or to~~] operate or propel, or cause to be operated or propelled, any vehicle (as defined in the traffic code) upon the mall [~~hereinabove~~] established[~~,~~] in this subsection; provided that vehicular traffic on Hotel, King, and Merchant Streets crossing the intersections at Hotel and Fort[~~,~~] Streets, King and Fort[~~,~~] Streets, and Merchant and Fort[~~,~~] Streets, respectively, [~~shall be exempted~~] are exempt from this [~~section.~~] subdivision.

(2) Notwithstanding the prohibitions contained in subdivision (1), vehicles may be allowed on the mall as [~~specified herein.~~] prescribed in this subdivision.

(A) [~~Passenger vehicles~~] A person may [~~be operated~~] operate a passenger vehicle on the mall between Beretania and Pauahi Streets at [~~all times~~] any time for the purpose of loading and unloading passengers [~~for Blaisdell Hotel and the Catholic church;~~] from any building on the lots identified as tax map keys 2-1-003:008 and 2-1-010:014 and in addition thereto, vehicles may, under police control, [~~park~~] be parked in the area designated for parking during

weddings or funeral services, and other special events held at the [~~Catholic church.~~] the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-010:014.

(B) [~~Passenger vehicles~~] A person may [~~be operated~~] operate a passenger vehicle on the mall between Merchant Street and the [~~C. Brewer~~] driveway on the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-013:003 for the purpose of exiting from the [~~C. Brewer~~] parking lot[~~.~~] on the on the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-013:003.

(C) [~~Passenger vehicles~~] A person operating a passenger vehicle and loading or unloading passengers [~~at Blaisdell Hotel and the Catholic church shall~~] from any building on the lots identified as tax map keys 2-1-003:008 and 2-1-010:014 may load or unload passengers only within the area designated for such purposes for the respective establishments.

(D) Any person operating a vehicle used by[~~,~~] or serving business firms located between [~~any one or more of the following:~~] Bethel Street and Fort Street via Chaplain Lane or the two service alleys situated between Bethel Street and Fort Street may [~~at any time,~~] enter the mall from Chaplain Lane[~~,~~] at any time and [~~shall~~] exit on Pauahi Street[~~; and further,~~]. In addition, any vehicle [~~used by or~~] serving [~~C. Brewer & Co.~~] any building on the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-013:003 may [~~at any time,~~] enter the mall at any time through the existing [~~C. Brewer~~] driveway[~~.~~] on the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-013:003.

(E) [~~It is lawful~~] A person may, during the period from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 a.m. of the following day, and all day on Sundays, [~~to~~] operate or propel a vehicle upon the mall for the purpose of delivering property to, or receiving [~~the same~~] property from, a store, shop, office, or other establishment [~~in or upon~~] located on any premises abutting the mall, or for the purpose of cleaning or maintaining the mall, except for [~~that~~] the portion of the mall between Merchant Street and Queen Street, where [~~it is lawful to~~] a person may operate or propel a vehicle at any time only for purposes of cleaning or maintaining the mall, providing emergency services, or [~~exiting and~~] entering and exiting the [~~C. Brewer~~] driveway[~~.~~] on the lot identified as tax map key 2-1- 013:003. A vehicle used for cleaning or maintaining the mall may be [~~lawfully~~]

operated on the mall pursuant to this paragraph only if it is an [~~"~~]authorized maintenance vehicle.[~~"~~]

(F) Vehicular traffic allowed under this subsection [~~shall~~] must travel only upon the area delineated for travel and [~~shall move~~] only in the makai direction, except upon portions between King Street and Merchant Street, where traffic [~~may move~~] is permitted in either direction and between Merchant Street and the [~~C. Brewer~~] driveway[~~,~~] on the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-013:003, where traffic [~~shall~~] must move only in the mauka direction; and except further that the direction of bicycle travel [~~shall be~~] is subject to paragraph (H). [~~No vehicle shall~~] A person may not park a vehicle at any time for any purpose upon the area clearly delineated for travel.

(G) [~~Passenger vehicles~~] A person operating a passenger vehicle and loading or unloading passengers [~~at Blaisdell Hotel and the Catholic church~~] from any building on the lots identified as tax map keys 2-1-003:008 and 2-1-010:014 may park for such purpose for a period not [~~exceeding~~] to exceed three minutes; [~~and~~] provided that vehicles loading or unloading freight under [~~subsection (b)(2)(E)~~] paragraph (E) may park for a period not [~~exceeding~~] to exceed 30 minutes.

(H) Bicycles [~~shall be~~] are permitted on the mall, [~~provided that unless~~] except as otherwise provided under this paragraph:

(i) [~~The operators of such bicycles shall be dismounted, but may travel in any direction of the mall;~~] A person riding a bicycle through the mall may not travel at a speed exceeding 10 miles per hour or engage in dangerous behavior; and

(ii) [~~The bicycles shall be parked~~] A person may park a bicycle only in bicycle racks that the city [~~shall provide~~] provides on the mall for that purpose.

Information and safety officers of the [~~Fort Street Mall~~] Downtown Honolulu business improvement district association or its contractor may ride bicycles upon the mall while in the performance of their duties.

This paragraph [~~shall control~~] controls over any conflicting provision that may arise should the Fort Street Mall be designated as any type of bikeway.

(I) Pedestrians [~~shall at all times~~] have the right-of-way upon the mall[~~.~~] at all times.

(J) The speed limit upon the mall [~~shall~~] must not exceed 5 miles per hour.

(K) Mopeds [~~shall be~~] are permitted on the [~~mall,~~] mall; provided that:

(i) [~~The moped is~~] Mopeds may not be operated on the mall but escorted by the dismounted moped operator, and may be escorted in any direction on the mall; and

(ii) [~~The moped shall~~] Mopeds may only be parked in bicycle racks designated for moped parking by signage of the city.

(c) *College Walk Mall and River Street Mall.* That portion of College Walk extending from the mauka side of Beretania Street to the makai side of Vineyard Boulevard, and [~~that~~] the portion of River Street extending from the mauka side of Beretania Street to the makai side of Kukui Street are closed to vehicular traffic and are established as pedestrian malls.

(1) *Right-of-way.* Pedestrians [~~shall at all times~~] have the right-of-way upon the malls[~~.~~] at all times.

(2) [~~*Parking*~~] *Vehicular restrictions.* Except as [~~hereinafter~~] provided[~~, it is unlawful for any~~] in this subsection, a person [~~to~~] may not park, [~~or~~] cause to be parked, [~~or to~~] operate or propel, or cause to be operated or propelled, any vehicle (as defined in the traffic code) upon the malls [~~hereinabove~~] established[~~;~~] in this subsection; provided that vehicular traffic on Kukui Street crossing the intersection of Kukui Street and College Walk [~~shall be exempted~~] are exempt from this [~~section.~~] subdivision.

(3) *Maintenance thereof.* Notwithstanding the prohibitions contained in [~~subsection (c)(2),~~] subdivision (2), vehicles may be allowed on the malls as [~~specified herein.~~] prescribed in this subdivision.

(A) [~~It is lawful to~~] A person may park, operate, or propel a vehicle upon the malls for the purpose of cleaning or otherwise maintaining the malls.

(B) Vehicular traffic allowed under this [~~section shall~~] subsection must travel only upon the area delineated for travel. [~~No vehicle shall~~] A person may not park a vehicle at any time for any purpose upon the area clearly delineated for travel, except for the purpose of cleaning or otherwise maintaining the malls.

(4) *Vehicular speed limit.* [~~No~~] A person [~~shall~~] may not operate or propel, or cause to be operated or propelled, any vehicle at any time upon the malls at a speed in excess of 5 miles per hour.

(5) *Exempt vehicles.* The prohibition against parking or operating a vehicle upon the malls [~~shall~~] in subdivision (2) does not apply to the driver of any authorized emergency vehicle (as defined in the traffic code) responding to an emergency occurring on the mall area; provided that [~~such~~] this exemption [~~shall~~] does not relieve the driver of operating the vehicle with due regard for the safety of others.

(6) *Bicycles.* A person may ride a bicycle through the malls; provided that the speed of travel does not exceed 10 miles per hour and the person does not engage in dangerous behavior."

SECTION 3. Ordinance material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New material is underscored. When revising, compiling, or printing this ordinance for inclusion in the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, the Revisor of Ordinances need not include the brackets, the material that has been bracketed and stricken, or the underscoring.

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE

SECTION 4. This ordinance takes effect on July 1, 2026.

INTRODUCED BY:

Tyler Dos Santos-Tam

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

June 23, 2025
Honolulu, Hawai‘i

Councilmembers

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Deputy Corporation Counsel

APPROVED this _____day of _____, 20 ___.

RICK BLANGIARDI, Mayor
City and County of Honolulu

Report Title:
Pedestrian Malls; Fort Street Mall; Expansion; College Walk Mall; River Street Mall; Department of Transportation Services ("DTS"); Downtown Malls; Bicycles; Bicycle Speed Limit; Dangerous Behavior Prohibition

Description:
Expands Fort Street Mall to include segments of South Pauahi Street and Chaplain Lane. Allows the use of a bicycle at a speed no greater than 10 miles per hour and prohibits engaging in dangerous behavior while on a bike on Fort Street, College Walk, and River Street Malls. Takes effect on July 1, 2026.

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