REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ZONING & PLANNING

Voting Members:
Esther Kia'āina, Chair; Tommy Waters, Vice-Chair;
Radiant Cordero, Val A. Okimoto, Andria Tupola

Committee Meeting Held
September 24, 2026

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

Mr. Chair:

Your Committee on Zoning & Planning, which considered Bill 48 (2025) entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO PEDESTRIAN MALLS,"

which passed Second Reading and was the subject of a public hearing held at the Council meeting on November 5, 2025, reports as follows:

The purpose of Bill 48 (2025) is to address pedestrian malls in the downtown Honolulu area.

The CD1 version of the Bill approved by your Committee expands Fort Street Mall to include segments of South Pauahi Street and Chaplain Lane; includes additional requirements for bicyclists on Fort Street Mall, Sun Yat Sen Mall, and College Walk Mall; and updates provisions regarding vehicular traffic and deliveries along Fort Street Mall by clarifying how deliveries and passenger pickups for certain segments of Fort Street Mall can be made.

Your Committee finds that at a public hearing on this Bill held by the City Council on November 5, 2025, public testimony was received in support of the Bill.

Your Committee, at its meeting on April 2, 2026, postponed action on the Bill to allow more time to address concerns regarding the Bill.

At your Committee's meeting on September 24, 2026, the Executive Assistant to the Director of the Department of Transportation Services testified in support of the CD1 version of the Bill.

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

ADOPTED ON OCT 7 2026

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 261(26)

One individual testified in support of the Bill.

Your Committee received written testimony in support of the Bill from two individuals

Your Committee considered and approved a CD1 version of the Bill that makes the following amendments.

A. Revises SECTION 2 of the bill, which formerly amended ROH § 13-10.2, relating to definitions, to instead amend ROH § 13-10.5(a), relating to penalties, to reference "imprisonment" instead of "the city jail."

B. In SECTION 3 of the bill, which amends ROH §15-25.1, relating to the establishment of pedestrian malls:

1. Deletes proposed new subsection (d) of the bill, which established a portion of Chaplain Lane as a pedestrian mall, and instead amends subsection (b) 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 the northwestern property line of the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-003:009, which 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, which abuts the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-003:010;

2. Amends subsection (b) by:

   a. Consolidating related provisions under the paragraphs within subdivision (2) and redesignating paragraphs in accord with the consolidation;

   b. Clarifying (specifically in redesignated subdivision (C)(ii), relating to vehicles serving business, cleaning, and providing emergency services on the mall) that:

      i. Persons who deliver property to stores, shops, offices, or other establishments between Beretania Street and Chaplain Lane between 2:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. of the following day must enter and exit the mall at Beretania Street and Pauahi Street, respectively; and

      ii. Persons who deliver property to stores, shops, offices, or other establishments between Chaplain Lane and Pauahi Street between 2:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. of the following day must enter and exit the mall at Chaplain Lane and Pauahi Street, respectively

   c. Amending redesignated subdivision (2)(E)(i) by allowing the use of a bicycle in any direction 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. In SECTION 5 of the bill, amends the effective date to be January 1, 2027.

D. Makes miscellaneous technical and nonsubstantive amendments.

Your Committee on Zoning & Planning is in accord with the intent and purpose of Bill 48 (2025), as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as Bill 48 (2025), CD1. (Ayes: Cordero, Kia'āina, Tupola, Waters – 4; Noes: None; Absent: Okimoto – 1.)

Respectfully submitted,

Esther Kia'āina
Committee Chair

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ORDINANCE _____

BILL **48 (2025), CD1**

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 13-10.5, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("Penalty—Procedure on arrest—Summons or citation"), is amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

"(a) *Penalty.* Any person violating this article [~~shall be,~~] is, upon conviction, subject to a fine of $250 or 30 days [~~in the city jail,~~] imprisonment, or both."

SECTION 3. 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~~] the 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;

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(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 the northwestern property line of the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-003:009, which 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, which 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, generally.* 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) *Exceptions to vehicle restrictions.* Notwithstanding the prohibitions contained in subdivision (1), vehicles may be allowed on the mall as [~~specified herein.~~] prescribed in this subdivision.

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(A) [~~Passenger vehicles~~] *Vehicles loading and unloading passengers—parking restrictions.*

(i) 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; and in addition thereto, vehicles may, under police control, park in the area designated for parking during weddings or funeral services, and other special events held at the Catholic church.~~] from any building on the lots identified as tax map keys 2-1-003:008 and 2-1-010:014.

(ii) A person operating a passenger vehicle and loading or unloading passengers 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 within the building.

(iii) A person may not park a vehicle at any time for any purpose upon any area delineated for travel; provided that:

(aa) Vehicles may, under police control, be parked in the area designated for parking during weddings or funeral services, and other special events held on the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-010:014; and

(bb) A person operating a passenger vehicle and loading or unloading passengers 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 to exceed three minutes; provided that vehicles loading or unloading freight under paragraph (C) may park for a period not to exceed 30 minutes.

(B) [~~Passenger vehicles~~] *Vehicular traffic from or serving any building on the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-013:003.*

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(i) 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 lot identified as tax map key 2-1-013:003.

(ii) Vehicles serving any building on the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-013:003 may enter the mall at any time through the existing driveway on the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-013:003.

(iii) The direction of vehicular traffic exiting from driveway on the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-013:003 abutting the mall is governed by paragraph (D).

[~~(C) Passenger vehicles loading or unloading passengers at Blaisdell Hotel and the Catholic church shall load or unload passengers only within the area designated for such purposes for the respective establishments.~~

~~(D)~~] (C) *Vehicles serving businesses, cleaning, and providing emergency services on the mall.*

(i) Any person operating a vehicle used by[~~,~~] or serving [~~business firms~~] businesses 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, any vehicle used by or serving C. Brewer & Co. may at any time, enter the mall through the existing C. Brewer driveway~~].

[~~(E)~~] (ii) [~~It is lawful during~~] 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~~]; provided that:

(aa) Persons who deliver property to stores, shops, offices, or other establishments between Beretania Street and Chaplain Lane during the time period specified in this subparagraph must enter and exit the mall at Beretania Street and Pauahi Street, respectively; and

(bb) Persons who deliver property to stores, shops, offices, or other establishments between Chaplain Lane and Pauahi Street during the time period specified in this subparagraph must enter and exit the mall at Chaplain Lane and Pauahi Street, respectively;

(iii) During the period from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 a.m. of the following day, and all day on Sundays, a person may operate or propel a vehicle upon the mall for the purpose of cleaning or maintaining the mall, except for that portion of the mall between Merchant Street and Queen Street, which is governed by subparagraph (iv); and

(iv) For that 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~~] the [~~C. Brewer~~] driveway[~~.~~] on the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-013:003 in accordance with paragraph (B).

A vehicle used for cleaning or maintaining the mall may be [~~lawfully~~] operated on the mall pursuant to this [~~paragraph~~] subparagraph only if it is an [~~"~~]authorized maintenance vehicle.[~~"~~]

[~~(F)~~] (D) *Direction of vehicular traffic on the mall.* 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~~]; provided that:

(1) Upon portions between King Street and Merchant Street, [~~where~~] traffic [~~may move~~] is permitted in either direction; [~~and between~~]

(2) Between Merchant Street and the [~~C. Brewer~~] driveway[~~, where~~] on the lot identified as tax map key 2-1-013:003, traffic [~~shall move~~] is permitted only in the mauka direction; and [~~except further that the~~]

(3) The direction of bicycle travel [~~shall be subject to~~] is governed by paragraph [~~(H). No vehicle shall park at any time for any purpose upon the area clearly delineated for travel.~~] (E).

[~~(G) Passenger vehicles loading or unloading passengers at Blaisdell Hotel and the Catholic church may park for such purpose for a period not exceeding three minutes; and vehicles loading or unloading freight under subsection (b)(2)(E) may park for a period not exceeding 30 minutes.~~

~~(H)~~] (E) *Bicycles.* Bicycles [~~shall be~~] are permitted on the mall[~~, provided that unless otherwise provided under this paragraph:~~] and may be ridden in any direction on the mall; provided that:

(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.~~

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

[~~(K)~~] (G) *Mopeds.* 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.

(3) *Right-of-way.* Pedestrians have the right-of-way upon the mall at all times.

(c) *College Walk Mall and Sun Yat Sen 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.~~

~~(2) *Parking*~~] (1) *Vehicular restrictions[~~.~~], generally.* 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~~] is exempt from this [~~section.~~] subdivision.

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[~~(3) *Maintenance thereof.*~~] (2) *Vehicles maintaining the mall--exception.* Notwithstanding the prohibitions contained in [~~subsection (c)(2),~~] subdivision (1), 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)~~] (3) *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)~~] (4) *Exempt vehicles.* The prohibition against parking or operating a vehicle upon the malls [~~shall~~] in subdivision (1) 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.

(5) *Right-of-way.* Pedestrians have the right-of-way upon the malls at all times.

(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 4. 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.

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SECTION 5. This ordinance takes effect on January 1, 2027.

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 and updates various provisions related to the exceptions to the vehicular restrictions on the mall. 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 Sun Yat Sen Malls. Takes effect on January 1, 2027.

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