DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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DREANALEE KALILI DEPUTY DIRECTOR

November 24, 2020

The Honorable Joey Manahan, Chair and Members Committee on Budget Honolulu City Council 530 South King Street, Room 202 Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Manahan and Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Bill 89 (2020) – Relating to Public Transit

The Department of Transportation Services (DTS) supports this measure that implements the recommendation of the Rate Commission to raise the fare schedule for the City's bus and rail systems.

Pursuant to the Revised Charter of Honolulu, the Rate Commission is authorized to recommend adjustments to fares and other charges for use of the City's multimodal municipal transportation system. Following transmittal of the recommendations to the Council, the Council shall fix and adjust reasonable fares and other charges so that the revenues derived therefrom, in conjunction with any other revenues allocated to the City's transportation system, shall be sufficient or as nearly sufficient as possible. The Council may also consider factors such as transportation equity, accessibility, sustainability, availability, and effect on ridership.

While we support this measure, in light of the widespread economic impacts of the pandemic and the significantly reduced ridership on TheBus, the DTS defers to the Council on the timing of the implementation of the updated fare schedule. However, the DTS respectively urges the Council's favorable consideration to approve non-fare provisions in this bill for immediate implementation, including those provisions that authorize fare capping and administrative fees for the HOLO card.

DEPT. COM. 768

The Honorable Joey Manahan, Chair and Members Committee on Budget November 24, 2020 Page 2

This measure complements Bill 87 (2020) that also implements recommendations made by the Rate Commission and proposes to increase the paratransit.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony. Should you have any questions, please call me at 768-8303.

Very truly yours,

Jon Y. Nouchi Acting Director

APPROVED:

Roy K. Amemiya, Jr. Managing Director