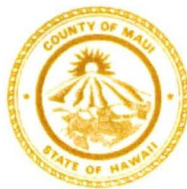


RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor

JOSIAH K. NISHITA
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Director

DIANE C. YOGI
Deputy Director

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793

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October 31, 2025

Honorable Richard T. Bissen, Jr.
Mayor, County of Maui
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL

Richard T. Bissen, Jr.
Mayor
11-3-25
Date

For Transmittal to:

Honorable Tamara Paltin
Chair, Disaster Recovery, International Affairs, and Planning Committee
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Tamara Paltin:

SUBJECT: BILL 163 (2025), BILL 164 (2025), AND BILL 165 (2025), TO AMEND THE MAUI ISLAND PLAN'S DIRECTED GROWTH MAP C5 (PULEHU ROAD), AMEND THE WAILUKU-KAHULUI COMMUNITY PLAN DESIGNATION, AND CHANGE THE ZONING FOR 166.511 ACRES SITUATED AT KAHULUI, HAWAII (HO'ONANI VILLAGE) (DRIP-19)

The Department of Transportation (DOT) hereby transmit the following response to your letter dated October 23, 2025 regarding Bill 163 (2025), Bill 164 (2025), and Bill 165 (2025), to amend the Maui Island plan's directed growth map C5 (Pulehu Road), amend the Wailuku-Kahului community plan designation, and change the zoning for 166.511 acres situated at Kahului, Hawaii (Ho'onani Village).

Question 1: Please review and provide your Department's comments on the project and attached proposed bills, including any anticipated impacts as a result of the proposal.

Response: The Maui Department of Transportation (MDOT) has reviewed the proposed Ho'onani Village mixed-use development with attention to its consistency with the Hele Mai Maui 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and its multimodal transportation goals. Overall, the proposed project aligns strongly with LRTP objectives to expand mobility choices, improve safety, and connect communities through Complete Streets

Received at DRIP meeting on 11/5/25

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design and transit-oriented development. The following analysis summarizes how the project supports the LRTP's key goals and related programs.

Goal 1: Improve Safety and Promote Health

The Hele Mai Maui 2045 plan emphasizes Vision Zero, Safe Routes to School, and Complete Streets initiatives to eliminate traffic fatalities and promote active, healthy travel.

- The inclusion of roundabouts, traffic-calmed local streets, and separated bicycle/pedestrian paths in the Ho'onani Village concept supports these safety priorities.
- Proposed sidewalks and multiuse paths promote active transportation and public health outcomes consistent with LRTP programs such as Neighborhood Slow Streets and Safe Routes for Kūpuna.
- MDOT recommends that the forthcoming Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) evaluate pedestrian crossings on Hansen and Pulehu Roads for potential safety upgrades (e.g., Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons or refuge islands) to ensure alignment with the Vision Zero Maui Action Plan.

Goal 2: Enhance Climate Resilience, Sustainability, and Cultural and Natural Resources

The LRTP calls for resilient infrastructure and reduced vehicle dependence through land-use integration and multimodal options.

- The project's mixed-use design, combining housing, retail, and employment, reduces the need for long commutes and supports a sustainable transportation pattern.
- Incorporating green infrastructure, low-impact design, and shade trees along sidewalks and bikeways would enhance climate resilience and stormwater management, consistent with LRTP Goal 2.
- The provision of a multiuse path system supports non-motorized mobility and reduces transportation emissions.

Goal 3: Expand Mobility Choices to Reduce Traffic Congestion

LRTP Goal 3 encourages public transit, shared mobility, and complete multimodal networks.

- The proposed street network with sidewalks, bike/ped paths, and rideshare pull-out areas advances Shared Mobility Pilot Program and Transportation Demand Management (TDM) goals described in the LRTP.
- The site's proximity to Maui Veterans Highway and the planned Pakaula Street extension positions it well for future Maui Bus service or an employer shuttle program.

- MDOT recommends coordination with Maui MPO and Maui Bus to identify future transit stop locations, paratransit service needs, and bus circulation routes.

Goal 4: Connect and Strengthen Communities to Improve Quality of Life

This goal emphasizes equitable, walkable neighborhoods with accessible public spaces.

- The central commons and pedestrian-priority design elements within the site embody LRTP strategies such as Placemaking Initiatives and Wayfinding and Signage Programs.
- The integration of housing, commercial, and light industrial uses fosters a balanced community that supports living, working, and recreating within the same area, reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and strengthening local connectivity.
- MDOT encourages the inclusion of culturally appropriate wayfinding and shade-protected walking routes to enhance comfort and inclusivity.

Goal 5: Maintain Assets and Invest Strategically for Economic Vitality

The proposed roadway improvements on Hansen and Pulehu Roads, including right-of-way dedication, pavement widening, and new pedestrian facilities, support the LRTP's emphasis on maintaining and upgrading existing infrastructure.

- The project's investment in local access roads will improve safety and network efficiency on two major collector routes.
- Coordination with DPW and Maui MPO is recommended to ensure consistency with long-term maintenance and capital improvement programming.

Summary and Recommendations

The Ho'onani Village proposal is generally consistent with the goals and policies of the Hele Mai Maui 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan. The project supports multimodal access, mixed-use development, and roadway design features that align with the County's Complete Streets policy and Vision Zero principles.

MDOT recommends the following coordination and design actions:

1. Incorporate the planned multiuse paths and sidewalks into County and MPO multimodal network maps.
2. Evaluate transit access, paratransit accommodation, and potential shuttle service integration.
3. Include pedestrian safety countermeasures in the TIA consistent with Vision Zero Maui.
4. Design roadway cross-sections and roundabouts to safely accommodate bicycles, pedestrians, and large vehicles.

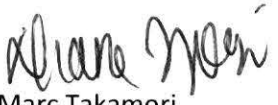
Chair Tamara Paltin

October 24, 2025

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5. **Coordinate with the Maui MPO, DPW, and Planning Department to ensure consistency with LRTP and TIP project implementation schedules.**

Sincerely,


 Marc Takamori
Director of Transportation

cc: Mayor Richard T. Bissen, Jr.

DRIP Committee

From: Michelle L. Santos <Michelle.Santos@co.maui.hi.us>
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 12:18 PM
To: DRIP Committee
Cc: Cynthia E. Sasada; Didi A. Hamai; Erin A. Wade; Josiah K. Nishita; Kelii P. Nahooikaika; Cora-Lyn Dumlao; Diane C. Yogi; Marc I. Takamori
Subject: MT#11282 Bill 163
Attachments: MT#11282-DRIP Committee.pdf