

EDB Committee

From: janae wong <jwong4728@myhta.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2019 10:53 AM
To: EDB Committee
Subject: Testimony | Economic Development & Budget
Attachments: Testimony Economic Development & Budget Committee.pdf

Aloha,

I am writing to address an issue of concern. Please see my attached document:

Thank you,
Janae Wong
12th Grade
jwong4728@myhta.org

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20 February 2019

Economic Development and Budget Committee

200 S. High St.
Kalana O Maui Bldg,
Wailuku, HI 96793

Dear Economic Development and Budget Committee:

Aloha Committee members and thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns relating to the Economic Development and Budget. My name is Janae and I am from Wailuku. I am a senior in high school and attend Hawaii Technology Academy. I would like to share my concerns about the lack of bike paths and sidewalks. I am in support of funding for additional paths for pedestrians and bike riders. I wish to see more bike paths for people to safely ride their bicycles on. I also think that sidewalks are important to add as well. I have also contacted the Multimodal Transportation committee for support with this issue.

In February, Maui Now released a news article about a pedestrian walking on a roadway in Kihei. He was hit by a vehicle traveling the same lane and later passed away. Another incident released on Maui Now reported a man walking on the shoulder of a roadway in Makawao when a vehicle hit him. He later passed away due to the accident. If there were paths that were away from highways and busy intersections, there would be a decrease in fatalities.

Children often walk to and from school and need to safely arrive at their destinations. Sometimes there are paths and sidewalks that have a cut off, which causes potential danger when the children are walking along busy roads. With not enough sidewalks and bike paths on the island, people, including myself, lack the ability to safely walk in areas where cars drive. If there were more safe walking paths, the community would be allowed more opportunity and space to walk and

ride bikes rather than driving short distances, which would also decrease the traffic on the island. Additionally, people would be able to get outside more and engage in movement for their health.

With added sidewalks and paths, there will also be a decrease in pedestrian accidents. I think that this island will benefit greatly from additional and improved sidewalks and bike paths. It will encourage others to practice movement more if there's a safe area created while also increasing the safety of everyone, especially children.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Janae Wong