Council Chair Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Tom Cook
Gabe Johnson
Tamara Paltin
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
Shane M. Sinenci
Nohelani Uʻu-Hodgins



Director of Council Services Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY OF MAUI 200 S. HIGH STREET WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793 www.MauiCounty.us

March 24, 2023

TO: The Honorable Representative Chris Todd, Chair, and

Members of the House Committee on Transportation

FROM: Alice L. Lee

Council Chair

SUBJECT: HEARING OF MARCH 28, 2023; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF

HCR188/HR193, URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND MAUI METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION TO RESTORE THE LĀHAINĀ BYPASS PHASE 1C PROJECT TO THE STATEWIDE

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important resolution. The purpose of this resolution is to urge the Department of Transportation and Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization restore the Lāhainā Bypass Phase 1C to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, or STIP.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this resolution. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this resolution for the following reasons:

- 1. In 2021, the STIP included an extension of the Lāhainā Bypass from Keawe Street to Kāʻanapali, designated as Lāhaina Bypass Phase 1C, as a means of reducing the impact of visitors on Maui's transportation infrastructure. But the project was removed from the STIP last year.
- 2. The Maui Island Plan states that the Lāhainā Bypass project is necessary to alleviate daily traffic congestion, accommodate future growth, and mitigate the impact of flooding and erosion on Honoapi'ilani Highway.
- 3. Completing this portion of the project will also support further improvements in the area, including development of the West Maui Hospital and Medical Center.

For the foregoing reasons, I **support** this measure.