
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO
EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF CONSTRUCTING A SUBMERGED
VEHICULAR TUNNEL UNDER PEARL HARBOR CONNECTING THE EWA
PLAIN TO DOWNTOWN HONOLULU.

1 WHEREAS, traffic congestion from the Ewa plains communities
2 and points farther west is becoming horrendous with the
3 construction of numerous housing developments in Ewa and Kapolei
4 and will only get worse with continued development in those
5 areas; and

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7 WHEREAS, traffic commuting times are seriously
8 deteriorating the quality of life of residents in west Oahu who
9 must commute to work and school in the urban core of Honolulu;
10 and

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12 WHEREAS, to alleviate traffic congestion along the H-1
13 freeway corridor, a submerged vehicular tunnel could be
14 developed with an western portal on non-federal public lands in
15 the Ewa Beach area, running parallel to the shoreline in Ewa
16 Beach, crossing under the Pearl Harbor channel, running parallel
17 to the Honolulu International Airport reef runway, and emerging
18 at an eastern portal in the vicinity of the airport viaduct and
19 Nimitz Highway interchange; and

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21 WHEREAS, this proposed submerged route should not affect
22 any federal lands or Department of the Navy operations, with the
23 only possible impact being the crossing of the Pearl Harbor
24 channel. Representatives from the Navy and the Air Force, at a
25 July 28, 2005, meeting with legislators, stated that so long as
26 the tunnel is deep enough and of adequate structural integrity
27 they would entertain the tunnel concept and participate in
28 further discussions to plan such a route since the Navy
29 traverses numerous areas over underwater tunnels on a daily
30 basis; now, therefore,

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32 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
33 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular



1 Session of 2008, that the United States Department of
2 Transportation is requested to examine the feasibility of
3 constructing a submerged vehicular tunnel under Pearl Harbor
4 connecting the Ewa plain to downtown Honolulu; and

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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of
7 Transportation is further requested to include the following in
8 its examination:

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10 (1) Estimates of the cost of planning, designing, and
11 construction for the proposed route of the submerged
12 vehicular tunnel;

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14 (2) An estimated time-line for the planning, designing,
15 and construction for the proposed route of the
16 submerged vehicular tunnel;

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18 (3) Estimates of the tunnel's various impacts, including
19 reductions in travel time; and

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21 (4) Comments and recommendations from the Department of
22 the Navy; and

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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
25 Resolution be transmitted to the United States Secretary of
26 Transportation, the United States Secretary of the Navy, the
27 Governor, Hawaii's congressional delegation, and the State
28 Director of Transportation.

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OFFERED BY: *Richard F. Atkinson*

JAN 09 2008

