

RESOLUTION ON HONOLULU COUNTY RAIL TRANSIT PLAN

Whereas, the Hawai`i Republican Party Platform calls for *Fiscal Responsibility*;

Whereas, the Hawai`i Republican Party agrees that public transportation is an important mode of transport and essential to tens of thousands of people in Hawaii;

Whereas, the existing TheBus system works well but can also be significantly improved;

Whereas, the 2002 Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) study for Honolulu clearly stated that transit ridership with BRT is comparable to that forecast for rail, at about one fifth of the rail's cost;

Whereas, Oahu's tourism, economy, emergency services, military operations, and disaster resilience depend on well-functioning highways and roadways;

Whereas, both City and State are running large debts and have multi-billion dollar obligations with highways, airports, harbors, sewers, and effluent treatment plants;

Whereas, Governor Lingle's commissioned independent financial analysis stated that it is practically certain that the proposed 20-mile elevated rail with 21 stations will cost over \$7 billion dollars;

Whereas, as projected under the current plan, the proposed 20-mile elevated rail with 21 stations will not be self-sustaining from revenue generated by riders and will require continuous taxpayer subsidies;

Whereas, the elevated rail, as planned, when completed, will require an expansion of government workforce to operate and maintain the proposed 20-mile elevated rail with its 21 stations;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Hawai`i Republican Party in convention at Lihue, Hawai`i, May 14, 2011, declares our opposition to the elevated rail as planned by the City and County of Honolulu because it is both fiscally irresponsible and will expand government, placing the burden to pay on the taxpayer.

Therefore, be it further resolved, that copies of this resolution be posted on the Hawai`i Republican Party website and distributed to Hawai`i elected officials and media for public dissemination.