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March 15, 2019

TO: The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

FROM: Kelly T. King
Council Chair *Kelly T. King*

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 18, 2019; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
HB 1457, HD2, RELATING TO TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Office of Planning for the planning and development of the Wailuku-Kahului Transit Corridor Master Plan in the County of Maui.

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

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. While transit-oriented development often brings the Honolulu Rail Transit Project to mind, the other counties also have opportunities to integrate transit-oriented development in their communities. The transit corridor between Wailuku and Kahului presents a unique opportunity for transit-oriented development in Maui County.
2. Kahului is the commercial center of Maui, while Wailuku serves as its civic heart. Implementing transit-oriented development to connect the two areas could provide more housing opportunities to our residents while creating critical access to both Kahului and Wailuku via the Maui Bus and other transportation options.
3. As the County's population grows and visitor counts rise, our roads endure more stress and traffic becomes more congested. A master plan for the Wailuku-Kahului transit corridor will help the County mitigate these impacts in the years to come.

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