

Walking & Bicycling Questionnaire for Candidates

This State candidate questionnaire was developed by Hawaii Bicycling League, Kauai Path, Maui Bicycling League, and PATH - Peoples Advocacy for Trails Hawaii to address current state issues of importance for walking and bicycling. Your responses will be made available online and distributed to our organizations' email networks. Your response will NOT be used as the basis for any endorsements - your response will be displayed verbatim. Please respond by July 25, 2016. Late responses will be accepted and will be posted as promptly as practical.

Thank you!

Hawaii Bicycling League

Kauai Path

Maui Bicycling League

PATH - Peoples Advocacy for Trails Hawaii

Name *

Cody Carlos Rodriguez

Candidate for *

State Representative - District 24

Email *

votecody2016@gmail.com

1. I believe that walking and bicycling should be safe transportation options available to all and we need to drastically reduce injuries and deaths of people who walk and bike. (YES or NO, and any comments) *

Yes

No

Comments?

I personally have been hit by a car three times in my lifetime. Each incident occurred in Honolulu while on a bicycle. I have lived in London and Tokyo as well, but I was never hit in either of those major metropolitan cities. I have been impressed how far we have come in the past ten years in Honolulu with educational awareness and creating a respected bike culture. I believe the introduction of the King Street protected bike lane is a tremendous improvement to bike safety on this island.

2. "Safe Passing" laws require that motorists provide sufficient space (3-4 feet for cars) when passing bicyclists; 32 states have such laws. I support the adoption of a "Safe Passing" law in Hawaii with specific passing distances. (YES or NO, and any comments) *

Yes

No

Comments

3. Hawaii received \$171 million in federal transportation funds in 2016. While only ~2% of this amount is reserved for walking and bicycling projects, the state Department of Transportation has the option to use larger portions of these funds for walking and bicycling projects. I support increased use of Hawaii's federal transportation funding allocations for bicycle and pedestrian projects to make walking and bicycling safer. (YES or NO, and any comments) *

Yes

No

Comments

This is long overdue. I see more and more bicyclists on the road as we have introduced a safer structure to ride. I would propose raising this to a minimum of 5%. If we build a safe walking and bicycling system, people will utilize it.

4. The state has a "Complete Streets" law designed to create equality of access for all road users (people walking, biking, driving, and taking transit) by requiring streets to be planned, designed, operated, and maintained to enable safe, convenient and comfortable travel for users of all ages and abilities, regardless of their mode of transportation. I support the strong implementation of "Complete Streets," including creating procedures that ensure full "Complete Streets" consideration on every project. (YES or NO, and any comments) *

Yes

No

Comments

In relation to this, there are some sidewalks that need to be redeveloped to be ADA compliant.

5. The state Department of Transportation's 2003 Bike Plan Hawaii provides a plan for development of a network of bicycle facilities that have not been fully implemented. I support the immediate updating of this 13-year-old plan in order to integrate new bikeway planning practices and make it more applicable to current transportation and development conditions. (YES or NO, and any comments) *

Yes

No

Comments

I fully support this updating. I have been a bicyclist in Honolulu for ten years. I have seen the best and the worst of the on-going struggle for bicycle safety. It is time to update the plan and implement it immediately.

6. Eighty-one percent of Hawaii commuters drive as their primary way of getting to work and 12% walk, bike, or take public transportation. I support the establishment of specific targets to reduce dependence on private automobile transportation and increase bicycling, walking and transit use, as Kauai County has done. (YES or NO, and any comments) *

Yes

No

Comments

Absolutely. As one of my campaign pledges, I have sworn to only bicycle, walk, or take public transportation to work as our state representative. I am indeed apart of the aforementioned 12% of commuters. As a public official, I will represent this minority and advocate in order to increase this percentage across the state.

7. Describe ways that you have supported safer walking and bicycling in your community. (short answer) *

I believe in leading by example. In terms of safer walking, I do not jaywalk and I do not condone the act when friends or neighbors are tempted to do so in my presence. I also do wear fluorescent clothing when walking or running at night. In terms of bicycling, I abide by the law and have bright lights on my bike when riding at night. I signal when changing lanes or turning. I come to complete stops at lights and I never run red lights.

8. The State has the Bike Plan Hawaii (2003) and the Statewide Pedestrian Master Plan (2013) for bicycle and pedestrian improvements. What will you do when elected to implement these plan? (short answer) *

The first thing I will do is go straight to the committee chair responsible for these plans and inquire what the status is on implementation. If there are issues that need addressing then I will get to the bottom of it and do what I can to resolve it so the plans can move forward. I have a critical voice and will not stand for the metaphorical spinning wheels in politics (pun intended). I will push as an elected official and a bicyclist get things going sooner rather than later.

This form was created inside of Hawaii Bicycling League.

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