

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 *

Sharon Har

Candidate for *

House District 42

Email *

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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 have always been a proponent of smart growth development which is a basic urban and transportation planning tool that incorporates 10 basic principles which promote compact, transit-oriented, walkable, bicycle-friendly land use, to avoid urban sprawl. With all of the traffic issues we have on Oahu (as well as the entire State of Hawaii), we must provide alternative methods of transportation including bicycling, walking and rail.

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

I support a "safe passing," bill because safety is paramount for our bicyclists. However, I think it is imperative to understand that even if such a measure were to pass, the issue will be enforcement (just as it is with any law).

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

Yes, so long as the Hawaii State Department of Transportation (HDOT) has adequate funding for system preservation, safety improvements and the capacity program.

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

I have always supported the concept of Complete Streets.

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 think the bikeway plan should be updated to integrate new bikeway planning practices and to integrate the bikeway plan into our current transportation system, assuming the funding is available to update the plan.

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

I think we should set targets so we must also ensure that the appropriate infrastructure is in place to promote walking, biking or public transportation.

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

Unfortunately, Kapolei is not the most “walkable, bicycle-friendly” city. When the Second City was being developed, all of the commercial development was planned on one side with the residential on the other, thereby forcing residents to use their cars just to do basic things like grocery shopping. That said, I have continued to be an ardent supporter of rail because it will get people out of their cars. With the first three rail stations being in my district, I have encouraged people to walk and bicycle to the rail stations, once they are complete.

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) *

I will work with HDOT to understand why the plans have not yet been implemented and to address whatever deficiencies exist, to implement these plans.

This form was created inside of Hawaii Bicycling League.

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