Walking & Bicycling Questionnaire for Candidates

This City and County of Honolulu candidate questionnaire was developed by Hawaii Bicycling League to address current City issues of importance for walking and bicycling. Your responses will be made available online and distributed to our organization's email network. Your response will NOT be used as the basis for any endorsements - your response will be displayed verbatim. Please respond by Tuesday July 26, 2016. Late responses will be accepted and will be posted as promptly as practical.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the questionnaire point person - Daniel Alexander, daniel@hbl.org, 808-735-5756.

Thank you! Hawaii Bicycling League

Name *
Lawrence Friedman
Candidate for *
Mayor for the City and County of Honolulu
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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 walking and biking. (YES or NO, and any comments) *
Yes
O No
Any additional comments? *
Cycling to work is a great idea! The problem is we need to have most employers to provide a place to change and shower. Walking is not as much of a consideration. If I were to walk 1-2 miles to work, I know that I would also need a shower as well. Again, that would be something that employer would need to supply.
2. Do you support building a Minimum Grid of 20 new miles of protected bikeways (protected lanes and multi-use paths) and 20 new miles of bike lanes by 2020, which will also make streets safer for pedestrians? (YES or NO, and any comments) *
Yes
○ No
Any additional comments? *
I support the idea of 20 new miles of protected bike lanes.

3. Do support strong implementation of Honolulu's Complete Streets ordinance (ROH 14-33) that requires streets to be planned, designed, operated, and maintained to enable safe, convenient and comfortable travel for all modes of transportation throughout Honolulu, including walking and bicycling? (YES or NO, and any comments) *
Yes
O No
Any additional comments? *
Yes, we need to make sure that all roadway designs consider all modes of transportation.
4. Eighty percent of Oahu commuters drive as their primary way of getting to work and 15% 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) *

Any additional comments? *

Yes, we need to focus on reducing private automobile use to mitigate our traffic congestion. We need more and better quality buses to help accomplish this goal. This will drastically reduce congestion. It is not highly likely that we can significantly impact traffic congestion by increasing cycling and walking as a way to mitigate congestion.

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

I support safe cycling by exhibiting the proper behavior while on a bicycle. As a member of Tradewinds Cycle Team, I am well versed in the rules of the road while on a bike and follow them while cycling around the island. Pedestrians should follow laws to protect their safety when crossing the street.

6. The City has the Oahu Bike Plan and the draft Protected Bike Lane Network Map. What will you do when elected to implement these plans? (short answer) *

My desire would be to continue the role out of the plan. However, my first action as Mayor will be to address the financial issues with rail. If we do not get the ballooning rail cost under control, then we will only have enough money for the most critical of city services.

7. The City has Transit Oriented Development plans that identify pedestrian improvements for areas around the rail, but no pedestrian master plan for the rest of the island. What will you do when elected to implement the pedestrian improvements in TOD areas and throughout Oahu? (short answer) *

I would look at the most critical pedestrian crossings and immediately put up solar powered yellow flashing lights that would be activated by the pedestrian at the crossing. I would also look to remove, where feasible, mid-block crosswalks as they do not conform to National safety standards.