

Walking & Bicycling Questionnaire for Candidates

This Walking & Biking Questionnaire for State Candidates 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 as you provide. Please respond by July 11, 2018. 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 *

Steve Lipscomb

Candidate for *

Lieutenant Governor

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?

As an occasional biker, I find I try to go out well before sunrise to avoid the traffic -- especially those making right turns onto Kalaniana'ole highway from side streets. The two-way bike lane on King Street is challenging. The traffic is busy, and when trying to turn into, say Straub Hospital, it is challenging to look for two lanes of bike traffic. Some roads such as Waialae Avenue and Monsarat have a bike lane placard, but insufficient room for bikes and cars to co-exist. Lastly, too many times while biking I have to swerve into the traffic lane to avoid joggers, walkers, and skate boarders who are in the bike lane. Our bike paths in general seem poorly devised and dangerous by their design flaws. Education and enforcement seem to be lacking.

2. Hawaii received \$178 million in federal transportation funds in 2018, 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

In general, the answer is yes, however I would need to review and prioritize the other projects funded by these monies to ensure our citizens' top priorities are addressed with the limited funds available.

3. The state Department of Transportation's 2003 Bike Plan Hawaii provides a plan for development of a network of bicycle facilities to enable those of all ages to cycle for transportation. The plan has not been fully implemented. I support the immediate updating of this 15-year-old plan in order to integrate new bikeway planning practices and make it more applicable to current conditions. (YES or No, and any comments) *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Comments

As Lieutenant Governor, within my first 90 days of election, I commit to initiating conversations with DOT with the intent to form a working group of key stakeholders to revise the 2003 Bike Plan Hawaii.

4. 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

☐ No

Comments

In general, my answer is yes, but I'd need to see the statistics by region, instead of by State. I like that our bus system has bike racks so that bikers can leverage public transportation as part of their travel requirements.

5. Vision Zero is a government commitment to achieve zero traffic fatalities tied with a comprehensive approach and specific actions in engineering, enforcement, and education. I support the adoption of a “Vision Zero” policy at the state level and development of a comprehensive plan with specific actions to achieve zero traffic fatalities. (YES or No, and any comments) *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Comments

Vision Zero should be incorporated into the revision of the 2003 Bike Plan Hawaii. Our traffic crosswalks are an area of particular concern for me as I find them to be unbelievably dangerous at uncontrolled locations. I've seen other cities update crosswalks so that a strobe system embedded in the street is activated by the pedestrian to better warn approaching vehicles. I'll champion this cause in Hawaii as Lieutenant Governor.

6. Red light and speed enforcement cameras have been proven to improve traffic safety for all roadway users (motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians) by reducing incidents of red light and speed violations. I support the implementation of red light and speed enforcement cameras at high injury intersections and corridors and in school zones. *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Comments

I lived in Germany for 3 years. They routinely used speed cameras to help control traffic. I'm a supporter of using technology to help solve our problems.

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

While Den Leader / Cub Master and as Scoutmaster of various Boy Scout Packs and Troops in America and Germany, I've helped teach our young men about bike safety, safely walking on road shoulders, and even conducted a few "bike hikes" to promote safe operation of bikes. Part of the curriculum included learning how to properly maintain their bikes (tire pressure, changing tires, lubrication, etc), safe attire, and the need to be visible.

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) *

Having lived in Germany and having had the pleasure of enjoying the various "walkplatz" or walking plazas of the various towns, I'd love to see areas like this included in community planning efforts. My first action in this area as Lt Governor will be to facilitate the update of both plans and then systematically implement them. I would personally love to see safe bike paths along the Kaiwi coast line here on Oahu and look forward to hearing great ideas from representatives on the neighbor islands.

This form was created inside of Hawaii Bicycling League.

Google Forms