

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 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 as you provide. Please respond by Friday July 13, 2018. 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 *

Tommy Waters

Candidate for *

City Council District 4.

Email *

tommywaters@hawaii.rr.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 walking and biking. (YES or NO, and any comments) *

Yes

No

Any additional comments?

Biker and pedestrian safety is paramount to the success of our improved biking and pedestrian plans. We cannot commit ourselves to improvements if the basic principle of safety isn't a priority. As a student at the University of Hawaii, I rode my bike to and from school. From Kahala to Manoa every day. I can tell you from personal experience. It was not safe.

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?

The King Street cycle-track is a success story. Bicycle rides have increased and in turn decreased the numbers of bicycles on sidewalks, creating safer means of pedestrians as well. Separating bicycles from traffic creates a more comfortable experience for new riders as well and makes bicycle riding safer. Bike lanes, like the additions on Wai'alaie and McCully, as less ideal for bicycle riders as a separated cycle-track, but have certainly added to safer and more complete streets.

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

No

Any additional comments?

I wholeheartedly support Complete Streets. Our finite resources and space demands more balanced and responsible planning, and so do I.

4. Seventy-nine 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) *

Yes

No

Any additional comments?

We must establish benchmarks in order to create tangible goals towards reduced automobile dependence. The need for these efforts is too dire for us to rely on qualitative objectives.

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

I am a supporter of Complete Streets and welcome creative and innovative solutions to make walking and biking real alternatives. I am a proponent of expanding our bike sharing program beyond downtown Honolulu and Kaka'ako and pedestrian overpasses where feasible.

6. The City has the Oahu Bike Plan and is in the process of creating the first Oahu Pedestrian Plan. What will you do when elected to implement these plans? (short answer) *

I will support an aggressive public education program that encourages residents to think progressively about alternatives to driving. The proponents of these plans already operate within this particular frame of thinking and living. We need to demonstrate to those not already invested in the plans that small life changes actually benefit our City as a whole. I will also support city improvement efforts that specifically promote and increase pedestrian and biker safety. I also support the expansion of the cycle track on Pi'ikoi and Ward Avenue given the success of the King Street cycle track.

This form was created inside of Hawaii Bicycling League.

Google Forms