State of Hawaii Candidate
Walking and Bicycling Questionnaire

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1. I believe that walking and bicycling should be safe transportation options available to all, and that we need to drastically reduce injuries and deaths of people who walk and bike.

   YES: Roads need re-design/improvement in most areas; grade-separated bike paths need to be built.

2. I support increased use of Hawaii’s federal transportation funding allocations for bicycle and pedestrian projects to make walking and bicycling safer. Hawaii received $156 million in federal transportation funds in 2019, only 2% ($3.12 million) of this amount is reserved for walking and bicycling projects. The state Department of Transportation can deploy these funds and has the option to use larger portions of federal transportation funds for walking and bicycling projects. This year, at least in part due to COVID19, more people are walking and bicycling than ever.

   YES: When DOT has options it appears no one outside DOT has any effect on how they decide things. unless the Governor’s appointee is in favor of something and even then they may ignore him.
   I do support using a larger proportion of Federal funds for improvements to pedestrian and cyclist safety.

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. Considering the fact that this year there has been a dramatic increase in the sales of bicycles in Hawaii to meet the demand in bicycling. 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: Yes, update the plan, but implement more at the same time.

4. Prior to COVID19 and the year 2020, eighty-one percent of Hawaii commuters drove as their primary way of getting to work and 12% walked, biked, or took 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: Yes insofar as drivers’ access to free flow of traffic is not hindered unnecessarily.

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.

NO: Like the ‘zero loss of life to COVID-10’ over-reaction, I don’t think transport can be made zero fatality - unless you’re willing to restrict under-25 and over 75 age drivers, cut speed limits way down, require breath tests before bar patrons get keys back, and onerously camera-observe to enforce rules everywhere. Even then you can’t legislate a certain residual amount of reckless folly out of the population and if you do you hinder everyone needlessly. A free people moving about on the planet will have collisions and mishaps - zero mishaps would mean zero movement. Just stay home, right?

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: Some red-light enforcement schemes create more accidents - you need to zero in on those situations and modify. You would also need to speed up traffic fine administrative procedures and allow for reasonably rapid adjudication of disputes.

7. In large part due to the Stay at Home orders, we have seen a rise in the numbers of people walking and bicycling. Describe ways that you have supported, or plan to support, safer walking and bicycling in our communities. (short answer)

Helped plan and design Sunset Beach bike path when it was first built. Have assisted and lobbied for Haleiwa sidewalks for 30 years, -- it is supposedly almost about to happen. I lead walking tours of our historic town. I helped a family member who cannot drive move to a more bike-friendly, bus-accessible, walkable community setting.

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 plans? (short answer)

I will support and sponsor legislation to further those purposes.

9. Trees lower temperature during the day, provide protection from the sun and rain, are a nice buffer to cars, and have a calming effect on traffic. Given that trees make it safer and more comfortable to walk and bicycle, do you support adding more trees to your area’s inventory?

YES: I recently retired as a certified arborist and during may career led statewide industry activities supporting tree planting, tree care, and safety for tree workers.
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Have advised at HECO tree give-aways. Have been Outdoor Circle member for decades. Yes, more trees need to be planted, and certain trees that have been removed in violation of public policy need to be replaced.