June 2, 2020

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
US Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington DC 20590

RE: POIPU ROAD SAFETY AND MOBILITY PROJECT – County of Kauai BUILD Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Hawaii State Department of Health, Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division (CDPHPD) is pleased to provide this letter of support for the County of Kauai’s Poipu Road Safety and Mobility Project.

For over ten years, CDPHPD and the County of Kauai have successfully collaborated on a variety of initiatives that support our shared goals. CDPHPD has worked in close partnership with the County of Kauai, and other public and private sector organizations, to support safe and healthy transportation networks and healthy community design to promote healthy, active lifestyles, and to provide safer, more convenient access to walking, biking, and transit use. This collaboration has also helped to achieve some of the objectives of the State’s Physical Activity and Nutrition (PAN) Plan.

From staff capacity building opportunities, to design charrettes, to quick-build pop-up projects, this agency partnership continues to result in innovative projects that foster a safer, healthier, more inclusive built environment on Kauai. CDPHPD provided the funding for the community design charrette in 2013 that resulted in the concept design for this project. We are pleased to see that the County has carried this project through from initial concept to preparing for construction.

The Poipu Road Safety and Mobility Project demonstrates that a well-designed transportation project reflecting community input can achieve the multiple goals of safety, health, environmental protection, and economic development. This project will connect places where people live to places where people work through a safe multimodal network.
The CDPHPD is pleased that the County of Kauai is pursuing projects supportive of multi-model transportation that includes biking and walking, and extends their full support of the County of Kauai’s 2020 BUILD grant application to fund the Poipu Road Safety and Mobility Project. We look forward to the continued partnership with the County of Kauai. Please contact me at (808) 586-4795 or by email at heidi.hansen-smith@doh.hawaii.gov if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Heidi Hansen Smith
Primary Prevention Branch Manager
Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division
Hawaii State Department of Health