

Hakoda, Riley K

From: adele rugg <adeleonmaui@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2020 8:45 PM
To: DBEDT LUC
Subject: [EXTERNAL] AgendaltemVII(A11-794 StateOfHawaii,DepartmentOfEducation-(KiheiHighSchool)(Maui)

Aloha ..

my name is adele rugg and i have lived in Kihei for over thirty years .. i am writing to SUPPORT the UNDERPASS for the use of the students who will be attending the high school in Kihei ..

i urge you to listen to the Kihei residents who are pleading our case for this underpass .. we know what Kihei needs for our students .. i urge you to listen to us ..

thanking you in advance for your kokua ..

aloha ..

adele rugg

Hakoda, Riley K

From: Mark Hyde <HYDEM001@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 6:13 PM
To: DBEDT LUC
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 9/10 Agenda Item #A11-794 (Kihei High School)

South Maui Citizens for Responsible Growth (SMCRG) submits the following written testimony in **opposition** to the state Department of Education's (DOE) request to amend the existing Order in this matter to eliminate the condition requiring the DOE to construct either an overpass or underpass to facilitate safe pedestrian access to and from the high school campus from the *makai* side of Pi'ilani Highway.

Pi'ilani Highway is a four lane major artery in and out of south Maui with a posted speed limit of 40 MPH but with prevailing traffic speeds regularly in excess of the limit. Nearly all young adult students who will eventually attend the school reside on the *makai* side of the highway, a fact known to the DOE when it selected the remote site for the school. Since adoption of the Order in this matter, the resident pattern in Kihei remains largely unchanged except for significant new housing construction undertaken makai of Pi'ilani Highway.

Teenagers are known to have developing brains, making them more susceptible to higher risk taking compared to that of older adults. (See, for instance, <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/ages-stages/teen/Pages/Whats-Going-On-in-the-Teenage-Brain.aspx>, and <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/teens-brains-are-wired-for-risky-behavior-study/>.)

"Most parents of teenagers don't need a study to tell them that adolescents are prone to being reckless. But new research confirms that teenage brains are actually wired to engage in risky behaviors." (Ibid.)

Mixing teenagers with a high speed, multi-car, multi-lane highway is a formula for disaster that must be avoided.

At the same time, the neighboring Waipuilani gulch presents an obvious choice and creative solution to provide safe access to the high school campus for students living on the *makai* side of the highway with the added benefit of encouraging health behavior in the form of walking and biking to and from school.

SMCRG urges the Commission to reject the DOE's request to eliminate the need for an over- or underpass and to recommend that the DOE use best efforts to design and build an underpass/pedestrian walk/bikeway that will enable students to have safe access to the campus from the *makai* side of the road. Additionally, please reject any suggestion that a pedestrian overpass is a good solution. (See <https://www.itdp.org/2019/10/01/pedestrian-bridges-make-cities-less-walkable-why-do-cities-keep-building-them/>):

"Pedestrian bridges do not encourage walkable, livable communities, nor do they improve road safety for drivers or cyclists. Separating people from the street reinforces the prioritization of personal motor vehicles, while encouraging speeding, driver negligence, and traffic fatalities." (Ibid, from the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy.)

South Maui Citizens for Responsible Growth
By Mark Hyde
President

Hakoda, Riley K

From: Richard <richardmoss26@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 1, 2020 8:08 PM
To: DBEDT LUC
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pedestrian crossing Piilani Hwy to Kihei HS

DOE, build the pedestrian overpass over Piilani Hwy to Kihei HS. The safest solution for students.

Richard Moss
137A Pauloa Place
Kihei, HI 96753

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10