Date: September 4, 2019

Background. The Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) on public fleets transition was established at the Climate Commission's meeting on April 24, 2019. Its scope was to investigate item 3 in the Commission's statement on mitigation, namely, look into how to "transform State and county fleets to address VMT reduction, congestion, and emissions—especially through electrification, renewable fuels, carshare, and supporting infrastructure development and deployment."1

The group met twice-- on May 2, 2019, and June 7, 2019--to discuss fleet transition strategies and tasks. The PIG presented its findings and recommendations to the full Commission at its meeting on July 17, 2019. The full report is available online on at climate.hawaii.gov/commission.

Final Statement. The Commission considered and took action to issue the following statement, which is based on the PIG's report, as follows:

In order to identify and undertake a complete set of activities in the near-, medium-, and long-term, that will help State and counties transition their fleets to clean, renewable fuels, the Commission calls for a lead entity that will coordinate/guide any necessary implementation, including a technical resource clearinghouse and outreach to fleet managers to bring regular updates to the full Commission meetings.

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1The Commission's statement on ground transportation emissions reductions, excerpted here, emphasizes the following as priorities if the state's climate change goals are to be realized:

1. Partner with counties and local organizations to develop and undertake a multi-year educational/public service announcement (PSA) campaign to address the link between the need for a price on carbon, and highlighting the importance of clean transportation in Hawaii—which will increase quality of life, and address climate change impacts by decreasing congestion, commute time and costs, and emissions
2. Explore and develop statewide policies and partner with counties to modernize parking policies and parking management, which will reduce overall emissions, congestion and vehicle miles travelled (VMT) from driving, and increase biking, walking, and transit use, to achieve State goals.
3. Transform State and county fleets to address VMT reduction, congestion, and emissions—especially through electrification, renewable fuels, carshare, and supporting infrastructure development and deployment.
4. Amend laws, such as the state procurement laws, to better align them with clean transportation priorities.