# TRANSPORTATION AND COVID-19: A ROAD FOR EVERYONE

**#TransportationTuesda** 

@HI\_CLIMATE

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## DO OUR ROADS MOVE CARS OR PEOPLE?

How we design and build our roads revolves around making them accessible and convenient for cars, perpetuating the transportation sector's major role in the production of about half of GHG emissions in Hawai'i.

"To help realize a more sustainable, resilient Hawaiʻi, we need to understand what our current transportation investments are to know whether they are helping us meet our critical climate and community goals."

-- Kathleen Rooney, Ulupono Initiative Director, Transportation Policy and Programs

Ulupono Initiative's recent report on the "Cost of the Vehicle Economy in Hawai'i" found that **\$21.8 billion** is invested every year on vehicles alone – and costs are slated to increase, regardless of funding received.

## PRIORITIZING PEOPLE OVER CARS

"For 70 years, we have built our communities in ways that make it difficult and unsafe to access daily needs outside a vehicle."

-- Driving Down Emissions, Smart Growth America

Once transportation planning **prioritizes people over cars**, roads will be safer, and more accessible –which in turn will encourage people to bike and walk more, and overall, for the system to **produce less GHGs**.

### GETTING PEOPLE WHERE THEY NEED TO GO

With fewer cars on the road because of the pandemic, the need to build sustainable infrastructure that encourages people to choose cleaner modes of transportation became glaringly obvious.



PC: Honolulu Star-Advertiser

PC: C+C Honolulu

PC: Blue Planet Foundation

#### **KING STREET BIKE LANE** - Dedicated and protected bike lanes

**ELECTRIFICATION OF TheBus** - Clean, reliable transit

**MULTIMODAL HUBS** - Concentrated areas of services and amenities accessible by walking/bike

### KALĀKAUA OPEN STREET SUNDAYS HONOLULU, HI

"It's just freeing, having the wide space, not competing on the sidewalks, not having cars around . . . It's just a lot safer."

-- Niu Valley resident Becky Muldoon on attending Open Street Sundays (Star Advertiser)

City and County of Honolulu and the Hawai'i Bicycling League launched an initiative that **encouraged bicyclists, joggers, and walkers travel through the usually busy Kalākaua Ave** during June & July of 2020.

The car-free streets provided an opportunity to promote one of the simplest ways to **lower our environmental footprint** with our island 'ohana.



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## RESOURCES

Strategic Design Can Help Car-Free Streets Gain Popularity Post-Coronavirus | *Smart Cities Dive* [bit.ly/TT-carfreestreets]

Kalākaua Avenue Open Street Sundays | *Hawaiʻi Bicycling* League [bit.ly/TT-KAopenstreets]

A Proposed Action Framework for Encouraging Active Transportation- Transit in Hawai'i | *State Climate Commission* [climate.hawaii.gov/activetransportation/]

Report Examines Hawaii's \$21.8 Billion Vehicle Economy | *Ulupono Initiative* [<u>bit.ly/TT-vehicleeconomy</u>]

Driving Down Emissions Report Release | Smart Growth America [bit.ly/TT-DDEReport]