

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S

REPORT TO LEGISLATURE

OF

THE STATE OF HAWAII

ON

ACT 10

SESSION LAWS OF HAWAII 2007  
(SENATE BILL NO. 1191, SD2, HD2, CD1)

**Relating to Pedestrian Safety: Appropriates funds for  
pedestrian safety improvements by the State and  
counties.**

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
JANUARY 2008

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**Report Title:** Pedestrian Safety

**Description:** Appropriations for pedestrian safety improvements by the State and counties.

## INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to Act 10, Section 4 of Senate Bill No. 1191, SD2, HD2, CD1, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007:

**“The department of transportation shall submit an interim report to the legislature not later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2008 and a final report, including accomplishments, findings, future plans, cost estimates, and any proposed legislation relating to pedestrian safety improvements, to the legislature not later than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2009 regular session.”**

The Department of Transportation (DOT) continues to fund, install and improve pedestrian safety. The most effective approach to improving pedestrian safety is through a multi-facet effort involving the “5-E’s” of safety: Engineering, Enforcement, Education, Emergency services, and Everyone else.

1. Walk Wise Hawaii information campaign.

The DOT is working with advocates to form a pedestrian safety coalition. The coalition provides the educational component of pedestrian safety through public service announcements, multi-lingual informational material for drivers and pedestrians, safety presentations and other activities promoting pedestrian safety.

2. Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP).

The DOT has developed the SHSP through collaboration with all safety advocates. The SHSP has identified pedestrian safety as an emphasis area and has developed strategies to improve safety through input from advocates in government, business, communities and organizations. The DOT is now proceeding to develop an action plan and implementation plan, which will include performance measures. The implementation plan will utilize the strategies developed in the SHSP.

3. Highway Safety Plan (HSP).

The DOT provides federal grants for highway safety efforts through the HSP. These traditionally non-engineering safety efforts include pedestrian educational and enforcement efforts.

4. Safer Routes to School (SRTS).

The DOT manages Hawaii's SRTS program. This statewide federal program promotes improving children's health through promoting bicycling and walking to school. The SRTS combines infrastructure and non-infrastructure proposals from government, businesses, communities and organizations. The DOT annually receives \$1,000,000.00 in federal funds during the SAFETEA-LU period.

5. Improved traffic signal light visibility through LED light installations.

The DOT is focusing on the island of Oahu to improve traffic signal light visibility by use of LED lights. Urban Oahu has been completed in Phase I and rural Oahu will be completed in Phase II. Phase II is anticipated to be completed in early 2008. Conversion of neighbor island traffic signals will follow soon thereafter. Cost for Oahu's conversion is \$1,500,000.00.

6. Installation of traffic signal pedestrian countdown timers.

The DOT is installing pedestrian countdown timers at signalized intersections to improve pedestrian awareness of crossing conditions. 68 countdown timers have already been installed on Farrington Highway in Waipahu, from Leoku Street to the vicinity of Waipahu High School. 90 countdown timers are in the process of being installed on Ala Moana Boulevard, between Fort Street and Piikoi Street, and will be completed in early 2008. Design is underway for other major intersections under the DOT and installation is scheduled for mid-2009. Neighbor islands signalized intersections will follow under subsequent phases.

7. In addition to the above, the DOT continues to improve pedestrian safety through other highway projects. Although combined with other DOT efforts in congestion mitigation, road maintenance, modernization and traffic operations, pedestrian safety evaluation is a part of each highway project's design. As such, highway projects with pedestrian improvements in FY 2008-2009 have total construction costs \$467,095,000.00.