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June 1, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: COUNCIL CHAIR ERNEST Y. MARTIN
FROM: COUNCILMEMBER TOM BERG 
SUBJECT: SOLAR ROADWAYS PILOT PROJECT FOR WEST OAHU

I would like to request that you assign to either the Transportation Committee or the Public Works & Sustainability Committee to consider a resolution that would establish a pilot project in Council District 1 for a Solar Roadways Project.

This new technology created by Solar Roadways Incorporated uses a highly durable glass surface material and shows very great promise for use in West Oahu with our abundance of constant sunshine and would further help reduce green house gases and our reliance on imported oil.

The special roadway material is both a solar energy collection system and roadway surface as well as having the capability to produce traffic centerline, shoulder illumination and also special traffic emergency notifications.

I believe we could find the federal grants, and possibly state and city funds to make a successful pilot project out in West Oahu. An initial pilot demonstration project could be creation of a prototype solar powered parking lot at a public facility where it would be highly visible and available for public inspection. Future projects could include sections of roadways and eventually entire new roadways.

Solar Roadways Incorporated has accomplished successful completion of a Phase I SBIR (Small Business Innovative Research) contract and has been awarded a follow-up \$750,000 Phase II SBIR contract by the Federal Highway Administration underway now.

This is the kind of highly innovative and out of the box thinking, using American ingenuity that we need to help Hawaii advance into the 21st century.

Solar Roadways three-minute video: <http://vimeo.com/40095422>

Solar Roadways pictures and images at:
<http://www.solarroadways.com/hirespics.html>

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Here are more video links at:

YERT: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ep4L18zOEYI>

TEDx Talk: <http://www.youtube.com/user/TEDxTalks#p/u/0/nvWTaqUvsa>

CNN: Start Small, Think Big: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E9pogK8Xo8Q>

CNN: Edge of Discovery: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ONB9rp_Msp8

CNN: Solutions: <http://www.cnn.com/video/#/video/bestoftv/2011/12/01/baldwin-solar-roadway.cnn>

Senator Crapo's endorsement: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mPaA_P7KTEg

Your consideration to hold an informational briefing on this Solar Roadways project is greatly appreciated.

cc: Scott Brusaw, Solar Roadways