

ADDRESS

3442 Wai'ālae Ave., Suite 1
Honolulu, HI 96816

PHONE

808-735-5756

**FAX**

808-735-7989

EMAIL

bicycle@HBL.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 23, 2024

CONTACT: Eduardo Hernandez - 808-690-7396 - eduardo@hbl.org

###

The 12th traffic fatality on O'ahu this year highlights a continuing need for pursuing Complete Streets projects, a Safe System Approach and everyone's shared responsibility to Vision Zero goals.

After reading a short [Honolulu Police Department report](#), the Hawai'i Bicycling League learned a person cycling in Waikīkī crashed after a vehicle stopped in an active traffic lane and a passenger carelessly opened their door into the Kalākaua Avenue bike lane. The 66-year-old victim was taken to an area hospital in serious condition. According to the Vehicular Homicide Section of HPD, three days later on May 17, he succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced dead.

"Our cycling community shares heartfelt condolences with the family and friends of the deceased gentleman as well as those of all vulnerable road users who have died. While words cannot adequately address the immeasurable loss their families are experiencing, we are united in our aloha for them and all victims of vehicular violence. We will work relentlessly to prevent future tragedies from occurring," said Eduardo Hernandez, Advocacy Director with Hawai'i Bicycling League.

The connection between [Complete Streets](#), [Vision Zero](#), and the [Safe System Approach](#) is undeniable. These approaches share a common commitment to creating safer and more accessible streets for everyone. Complete Streets designs prioritize safety through infrastructure improvements that accommodate all road users. This alignment with the goals of Vision Zero and the Safe System Approach underscores the importance of these concepts in achieving our goal: eliminating traffic fatalities and severe injuries on our shared roadways.

Thanks to a robust partnership with the Hawaii Department of Transportation, Department of Transportation Services in Honolulu, and colleagues statewide, HBL has been on the forefront of championing safe streets for all. We will continue to advocate for better infrastructure, better enforcement, and building a safer transportation system.

Roadways are shared public spaces. Speed, distraction, and carelessness are leading causes of fatal injury. Most often, this is the behavior of people driving vehicles and the impacts fall most heavily on people walking and biking as well as other vulnerable road users. If you drive, you must take extra care to look for these road users.

###

About Hawai'i Bicycling League

Hawai'i Bicycling League (HBL) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit founded in 1975 with a mission to enable more people to ride bicycles for health, recreation, and transportation through advocacy, education, and events. HBL advocates for increased and safer biking facilities, along with legislation to improve safety for all vulnerable users to continuously evolve our community into a better place for biking, rolling, and walking. HBL educates people of all ages and abilities to improve their cycling safety and comfort, and educates motorists about laws and how to reduce crashes with vulnerable users. HBL's BikeEd Hawaii program has taught bike safety to more than 100,000 4th graders since 1989. Signature events organized by HBL include the annual Honolulu Century Ride and the Haleiwa Metric Century, among others and numerous weekly group rides. HBL is funded by grants, donations, memberships, and proceeds from events. Complete information is available at www.hbl.org.