



Donovan M. Dela Cruz
Hawai'i State Senator

Chair, Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing

Vice Chair, Committee on Transportation and International Affairs

Member, Committees on Ways and Means; Agriculture; Water and Land

Aloha!

I am encouraged that the State Department of Transportation (DOT) is considering an additional lane into Wahiawa town to relieve the traffic back up onto the freeway. (See further information on this in the adjoining column.) There is a lot of traffic going through Wahiawa as we found out with the temporary closure of the Kars-ten Thot Bridge when a great many people were inconvenienced and distressed by the closure. With the additional lane and measures to improve traffic flow through the town, we should see an improved flow of traffic and as a result, decrease the backup onto the freeway. Also, I am pleased to be informed that the access road for Mililani Mauka is in DOT's 2014 Overall Work Program for a secondary access from H-2. We can look forward to some road improvements that we have been waiting for. A Hui Hou,



Hawaii State Senate

District 22

Serving Mililani Mauka, Wahiawa, Whitmore Village, Waipi'o Acres, Wheeler, part of Poamoho—and the State of Hawai'i

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Traffic Impact Projects in Central Oahu

Wahiawa—The State Department of Transportation (DOT) is in the process of developing a conceptual plan to address the traffic congestion heading into Wahiawa from H2. There were concerns raised about the traffic backing up on the freeway from the Wahiawa off ramp. The department is exploring various options to relieve some of the backup. Some of the possibilities may be adding an additional lane on the bridge going into Wahiawa, removing parking stalls and changing parking restriction signs along Kamehameha Highway. Senator Dela Cruz; Representative Oshiro; Jeanne Ishikawa, Chair of the Wahiawa Neighborhood Board; and Libby Smithe of the Wahiawa Community and Business Association will be meeting with the director and deputy director of the Department of Transportation on this matter.

Traffic Signal at Helemano Plantation—DOT recommends driveways be consolidated to justify the signal. Castle & Cooke plans to install the traffic signal.

Mililani Mauka—The design phase for the traffic signals at Meheula Parkway and Kuaoa Street is currently underway and submittal to the City by Castle & Cooke is expected by May. Approval is anticipated within five months and the bidding and contract process can begin followed by construction improvements. The project is expected to be completed in June or July 2014.

Emergency Access Road for Mililani Mauka—Senator Dela Cruz inquired what DOT's plans were for this access and was informed that The Central Oahu Transportation Study for the 2014 Overall Work Program includes a secondary access from H-2.

Central Oahu School Improvements

Mililani Middle School—The contract to repair the campus fire alarm has been awarded at a cost of \$248,888.

Mililani Mauka Elementary School—The contract to repaint the metal roof of Buildings B, C, and D has been awarded. Project amount is \$447,494.

Wahiawa Elementary School—Reroofing of Building L at a cost of \$138,254 was awarded.

Hale Kula Elementary School—The Department of Defense awarded \$26.6 million for Hale Kula as part of a \$250 million effort to upgrade public schools on military bases nationwide. The federal money will be combined with \$6.6 million in matching funds from the state Department of Education. The school was built in 1969 and has had no upgrades or additions since.

Bulky Item Crackdown

A new law going into effect from May 1 establishes a \$250 fine for people who leave bulky items out more than a night before the scheduled pickup day. The City passed the law to address the eyesore created when bulky items are left on sidewalks and city streets ahead of scheduled pickup, often for days or even weeks. If residents observe illegal dumping going on, they can call the city's illegal-dumping hotline at 768-3203.

Fire Safety

Many house fires are caused by malfunctions of wall outlets. Fire officials say there is a way you can test the outlets rather inexpensively—through a plug tester you can get at any hardware store.



U. S. Small Business Administration Award Winners

Senator Dela Cruz, as Chair of the Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing, was asked to coordinate floor recognition of the U.S. Small Business Administration's award winners in the various categories for the state of Hawaii for 2013. These individuals and businesses were recognized for successful and exemplary efforts in entrepreneurship and in assisting other small businesses in their respective categories.



Whitmore Village Agricultural Development Plan

Senator Dela Cruz presents his Whitmore Village Agricultural Development Plan to community residents and organizations who have indicated an interest in the plan and have asked for further information. The Plan has drawn much interest from the agriculture industry, farmers, and other pertinent entities. Senator is working with all those involved who have a role in ensuring that the Plan is implemented in a timely manner. Representative Oshiro, Officials from the Agribusiness Development Corporation and Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) also spoke.



You can view Senator Dela Cruz's senate website at www.capitol.hawaii.gov. If you would like to receive our monthly newsletters and quarterly updates via email, we suggest that you email us your request via the Senate website.

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Invest Hawaii Entrepreneurs Day at the Capitol

As Chairs of committees responsible for economic development, Representative Clift Tsuji and Senator Dela Cruz, in conjunction with the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, sponsored the first Entrepreneurs Day at the capitol to showcase entrepreneurs and businesses. Hopefully, this will become an annual event. More than 90 exhibitors participated with tables on the second and third floors of the capitol. Along with Entrepreneurs Day, the HI Growth Initiative was also promoted. HI Growth Initiative is a program focused on building an innovation ecosystem that supports entrepreneurial high growth businesses and creates high wage jobs. This will help us diversity our economy and help the private sector to startup and grow creative and innovative companies. It will also help keep our established industries competitive and create new areas of opportunities to allow our young people to remain in Hawaii in pursuit of their careers rather moving elsewhere to seek opportunities.

