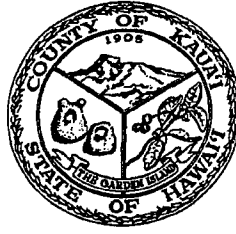


COUNTY COUNCIL
BILL "KAIPO" ASING, CHAIR
JAY FURFARO, VICE CHAIR
TIM BYNUM
DICKIE CHANG
DARYL W. KANESHIRO
LANI T. KAWAHARA
DEREK S. K. KAWAKAMI



4396 RICE STREET, ROOM 206
LIHU'E, KAUAI, HAWAII 96766-1371
E-mail: cokcouncil@kauai.gov

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK
Council Services Division
Elections Division
Records Division
PETER A. NAKAMURA, County Clerk
ERNESTO G. PASION, Deputy County Clerk
Telephone: (808) 241-6371
Facsimile: (808) 241-6349

SENATE COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION, INTERNATIONAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
FEBRUARY 2, 2009 – 1:15 P.M. HEARING

TESTIMONY OF KAUAI COUNTY COUNCILMEMBER DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, CHAIR
COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY/ENERGY/INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

ON SENATE BILL NO. 97, RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR THE WAILUA EMERGENCY BYPASS ROAD REPAIR AND RESURFACING AND THE WAIMEA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADES FOR THE COUNTY OF KAUAI.

Dear Chair English and Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in behalf of the Kauai County Council in support of SB 97, relating to appropriations for CIP projects on Kauai that have been identified as top priorities by both Mayor Bernard Carvalho's Administration and the County Council which have been approved as part of the Kauai County Legislative Package. This bill will provide funding assistance for two important projects, the Wailua Emergency Bypass Road (\$950,000) and Waimea Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades (\$6.0 million).

WAILUA EMERGENCY BYPASS ROAD REPAIR AND RESURFACING

This bill, if approved, will provide \$950,000 for the Wailua Emergency Bypass Road repairs and resurfacing. The total cost of the project is \$1.0 million of which the County will fund the difference. This project is important as it will allow traffic to keep flowing along Kūhiō Highway during emergencies. The County has tried to maintain this emergency road since 2004; however, the County alone cannot continue to bear the cost and we therefore are requesting State assistance. This project will help keep the link between the east and north shores open in times of emergencies for residents and visitors, goods and services, and especially for emergency responders.

WAIMEA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

This total project cost is approximately \$12.0 million, of which \$6.0 million is being requested from the State. This project is essential for the viability of the westside community of Waimea. The current users include public schools in Waimea and the Kauai Veterans Memorial Hospital. The project will upgrade the treatment plant and expand its capacity to continue to provide service to both public and private users in the Waimea area. The project will also upgrade the effluent water quality to meet standards for irrigation use and provide solar photo-voltaic capacity to offset the energy consumption associated with the expansion. Finally, this expansion would allow for the development of affordable housing in the Waimea community.

For the aforementioned reasons, thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support of this bill.

Sincerely,

DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, CHAIR
Public Safety/Energy/Intergovernmental Relations Committee

**TESTIMONY OF THE
COUNTY OF KAUA'I
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT DIVISION**

**TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON TRANSPORTATION, INTERNATIONAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

**TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2009**

February 2, 2009
1:15 p.m.

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 97, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR WAILUA EMERGENCY BYPASS ROAD REPAIR AND RESURFACING, AND WAIMEA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADES FOR THE COUNTY OF KAUA'I.

TO THE HONORABLE J. KALANI ENGLISH, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Edward Tschupp, chief of the Wastewater Management Division, Department of Public Works, County of Kaua'i (County), testifying in favor of Senate Bill No. 97. Both projects in the Bill are approved for inclusion in the Kaua'i County legislative package by the Mayor and the County Council.

My testimony will address the appropriation for the Waimea Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades. The Bill makes an appropriation of \$6 million for fiscal year 2009-2010 to assist Kaua'i County with upgrades to the Waimea Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The project is anticipated to cost approximately \$12 million, and the County will contribute the difference between any appropriated State funds and the total project cost. The funds will be used to expand the capacity and upgrade the Waimea WWTP, which treats wastewater from the community of Waimea, Kaua'i. Users of the plant include the public schools in the Waimea area as well as the Kaua'i Veterans' Memorial Hospital, which is part of the State's Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation. Benefits of the project include:

- Continuous and reliable service to public and private users in the Waimea service area;
- Ability to lift present capacity restrictions, by allowing new connections, including connections for the development of affordable housing and business expansion;
- Upgrades in effluent water quality to meet standards for irrigation reuse and improve water quality on the coastal plain between Waimea and Kekaha; and
- Solar electric capacity in order to offset the energy requirements associated with the plant expansion.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this matter.

**TESTIMONY OF THE
COUNTY OF KAUA'I
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

**TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON TRANSPORTATION, INTERNATIONAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

**TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2009**

February 2, 2009
1:15 p.m.

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 97, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR WAILUA EMERGENCY BYPASS ROAD REPAIR AND RESURFACING AND WAIMEA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADES FOR THE COUNTY OF KAUA'I.

TO THE HONORABLE J. KALANI ENGLISH, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Donald Fujimoto, County Engineer, Department of Public Works, County of Kaua'i (County), testifying in favor of Senate Bill No. 97.

The Bill requests an appropriation for emergency bypass road repairs and wastewater treatment plant upgrades. This request has been approved by the Mayor and the Kaua'i County Council for submission to you as the Kaua'i County package. I will address the request for funding for the emergency bypass road, and Edward Tschupp of my staff will address the request for funding for the wastewater treatment plant.

The County is requesting an appropriation of \$950,000 for fiscal year 2009-2010 to assist it with road repair, resurfacing, and other improvements to the Wailua Emergency Bypass Road. The total cost of the project is approximately \$1.9 million, and the County will contribute the difference between any appropriated State funds and the total project cost.

The Wailua Emergency Bypass Road is an essential alternative to Kūhi'ō Highway, when the highway must be closed in emergencies. Kūhi'ō Highway is a State highway that is the sole public access between the County seat in Līhu'e, and the largest population center on Kaua'i, the Kawaihau District. Until the State provides alternatives, Kuhio Highway is closed during emergencies, essentially isolating half of the island from essential services, such as the airport and major health care providers. This State highway is heavily used, and is the site of approximately 90 major accidents a year. We understand from the State that alternative access is probably years away.

The County has established and maintained the emergency bypass road at its

expense since 2004. The road was originally a cane haul road over private and public land, extending from the Wailua River to Hanamā'ulu Town. However, the County cannot continue to bear the entire cost of providing access on behalf of the State, and is requesting matching funds to make improvements to the road, such as planning and implementation for the reconstruction of some sections of the road base, general resurfacing, and installation of guardrails, signage, and delineators.

Benefits of maintaining the emergency road as an alternative to the only State highway linking communities on the East and North Shores include:

- Access to vital health care and government services for residents of the East and North Shores of Kaua'i;
- Access to the airport for residents and visitors to these areas;
- Access to Kaua'i Community College and private and public schools for area residents; and
- Flow of goods and services to businesses located in the affected areas; and
- Access to the affected areas by first responders.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this matter.

Testimony in Support of
SB97

Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds and Making an Appropriation for Wailua Emergency By-pass Road Repair and Resurfacing, and Waimea Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades for the County of Kauai.

By
Al Lardizabal, Director of Government Relations
Laborers' International Union of North America Local 368

To the
Senate Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental
Affairs

Honorable J. Kalani English, Chair; Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
and Members of the Committee:

The Laborers' Union is in full and complete support of Senate Bill 97 authorizing the issuance of G.O. bonds in the amount of \$6,950,000 for two capital improvement projects that Mayor Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr. of the County of Kauai has deemed urgent before the joint House Finance and Senate Ways and Means Committee.

We believe that the urgencies are due to at least the following factors:

For the Wailua Bypass Road project, it is essential that it be made passable and available for use during the shut down of the main highway, Kuhio Highway which happens frequently during automobile accidents. There is no other road or highway available other than the Wailua bypass Road (formerly a cane-haul road) to allow the free flow of residential, visitor and commercial traffic. About half of the Island of Kauai is cut off from the other during any shutdown of Kuhio Highway. Second, during the recent heavy rains and flooding which the Island of Kauai is prone to (it has the highest rainfall in the state) in December 2008, the road was made "...virtually impassable until numerous temporary repairs are made". Third, the road project is needed as part of the economic stimulus effort for the County of Kauai to put people to work and to infuse monies into the local economy.

For the Waimea Wastewater Treatment Plant project, this is also needed to put people to work and infuse monies into the Island's fragile economy. Second the age, technology and capacity of the plant dates back to the 1970s; it is insufficient to meet the growth needs of the Island's residents, visitors and commercial sector. Its limited capacity is a barrier to the construction of needed housing for the people of Kauai and is further exacerbated with the advent of necessary EPA rules disallowing cesspools. The requested G.O. bond amount constitutes only 50% of the cost for both the road project and waste water project.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.



HAWAII BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL, AFL-CIO

GENTRY PACIFIC DESIGN CENTER, STE. 215A • 580 N. NIMITZ HIGHWAY, #50 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817
(808) 524-2249 • FAX (808) 524-6893

January 30, 2009

NOLAN MORIWAKI

President
Bricklayers & Ceramic Tile Setters
Local 1 & Plasterers/Cement
Masons Local 830

JOSEPH O'DONNELL

Vice President
Iron Workers Local 625

DAMIEN T. K. KIM

Financial Secretary
International Brotherhood of
Electrical Workers Local 1186

ARTHUR TOLENTINO

Treasurer
Sheet Metal Workers I.A. Local 283

MALCOLM K. AHLO

Sergeant-At-Arms
Carpet, Linoleum, & Soft Tiles
Local 1296

REGINALD CASTANARES

Trustee
Plumbers & Fitters Local 876

THADDEUS TOMEI

Elevator Constructors Local 126

JOSEPH BAZEMORE

Drywall, Tapers, & Finishers
Local 1944

RICHARD TAGGERE

Glaziers, Architectural Metal &
Glassworkers Local Union 1889

AUGHN CHONG

Roofers, Waterproofers & Allied
Workers United Union of Roofers
Local 221

MARY AYCOCK

Boilermakers, Ironship Builders
Local 627

LYNN KINNEY

Historic Council 50
Painters & Allied Trades
Local 1791

ALANI MAHOE

Operating Engineers Local 3

EDWARD SEBRESOS

International Assoc. of
Heat & Frost Insulators
Allied Workers Local 132

Honorable Senator J. Kalani English, Chair
Honorable Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Transportation, International and
Intergovernmental Affairs
Hawaii State Capital
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: **IN SUPPORT OF SB 97**
AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION
BONDS AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR WAILUA
EMERGENCY BYPASS ROAD REPAIR AND RESURFACING,
AND WAIMEA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
UPGRADES FOR THE COUNTY OF KAUA'I.
Hearing: Monday, February 2, 2009, 1:15 p.m.

Dear Chair English, Vice Chair Gabbard and the Senate Committee on
Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs:

For the Record my name is Buzz Hong the Executive Director for
the Hawaii Building & Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO. Our
Council is comprised of 16-construction unions and a membership
of 26,000 statewide.

The Council SUPPORTS the passage of SB97 authorizing the
issuance of G. O. bonds in the amount of \$6,950,000 for two
capital improvement projects that Mayor Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr. of
the County of Kaua'i has deemed urgent before the joint House
Finance and Senate Ways and Means Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support
of SB97.

Sincerely,

W. Hong dg

William "Buzz" Hong
Executive Director

WBH/dg