



Transportation Town Hall Meeting draws residents

Roadways and traffic top the agenda

About 70 interested residents turned out for a June 30 town hall meeting at Kapolei High School to get updates on roadway projects in Kapolei — for both the regional transportation network and the interior roads for the urban core.

“As the state representative for Kapolei, Makakilo, Royal Kunia and Kalaeloa, I am constantly hearing from my constituents with questions, concerns and suggestions about the traffic issues in our area,” said Rep. Sharon Har, who initiated the meeting. “Though my office works closely with the state Department of Transportation and the city and county Department of Transportation Services, I thought it was important to convene this meeting in order to provide a forum in which our constituents could hear and speak directly to these two agencies about all the roadway projects impacting our area.”

State Department of Transportation (DOT)

DOT leadership gave a wide-ranging report covering freeway and roadway improvements, freeway resurfacing, traffic management and traveler advisory system, and a planned Leeward bikeway system. Two of the

projects were of immediate interest to Kapolei region residents:

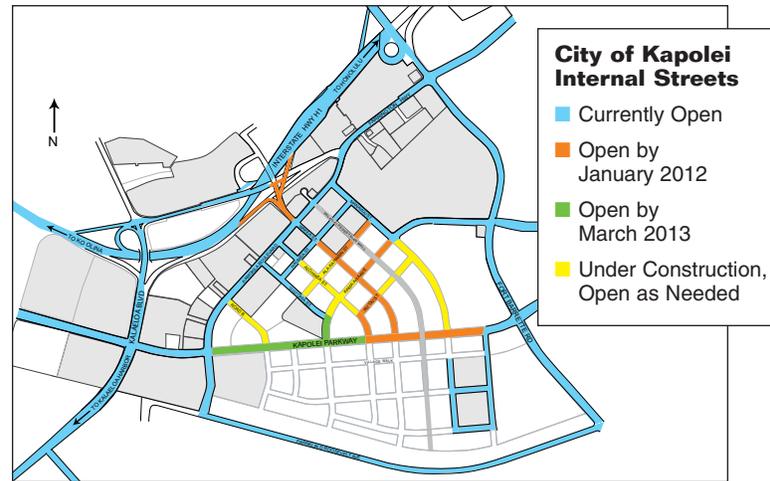
■ Kapolei Interchange Complex.

Phase 1, which includes H-1 Freeway on- and off-ramps at Makakilo Drive and Farrington Highway at Wakea Street, is heading for an October 2011 completion date. During this period, Kapolei Property Development and DOT have partnered to provide a police officer to direct traffic during peak hours at the Kalaeloa Boulevard/Farrington Highway intersection. Phase 2 is scheduled for a June 2012 start date, with Phases 3 and 4 currently in the planning stages.

■ Fort Barrette Road Widening.

Work on widening the current two lanes to a four-lane divided highway is slated to begin June 2014, with completion in June 2015.

“These projects will help to keep up with the present and future growth of Kapolei and Makakilo and we appreciate residents’ patience with our roadway improvements,” said Glenn Okimoto, Director of Transportation. “The work today will help to balance congestion patterns through the neighborhoods and keep traffic moving along the regional thoroughfares.”



City & County Department of Transportation Services (DTS)

In addition to an overview of its own traffic management system, including ways to improve public transportation services using shuttle buses in Kapolei, the city’s DTS reported on current and planned projects that directly affect the movement of traffic within Kapolei’s urban core.

■ Kalaeloa Boulevard.

Improvements to this roadway are underway, with completion planned for April 2012.

■ Kapolei Parkway Extension.

DTS is scheduled to start construction in March 2012, with completion in January 2013. The extension will connect Kamokila Boulevard to Kama’aha Avenue.

■ Kama’aha Avenue Extension.

This extension will begin in August 2012, with completion in February 2013.

■ Kamokila Boulevard Restoration.

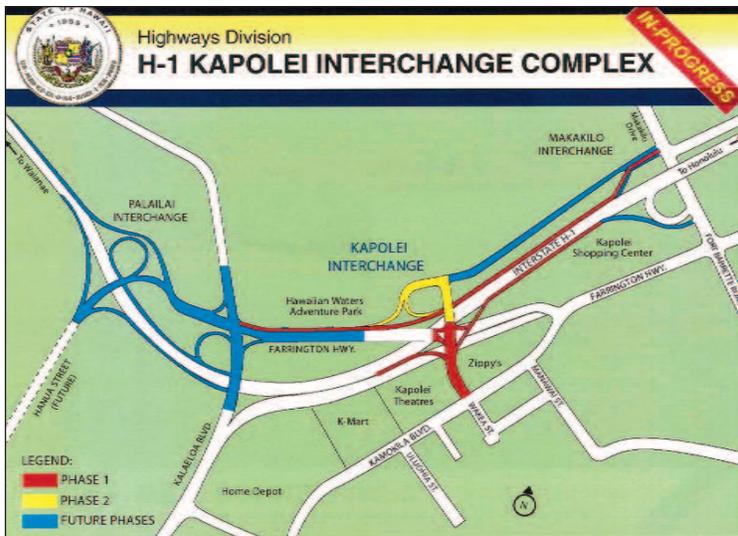
This project is planned to begin in September 2011 with the opening of Phase 1 of the Kapolei Interchange Complex. It will restore Kamokila Boulevard from Wakea Street to Kapolei Parkway. Completion is scheduled for March 2012.

■ **Traffic Signal Updates.** The Manawai Street/Haumea Street traffic signal will be operational in September 2011, followed in November by the Kamokila Boulevard/Kapolei Parkway signal.

“Kapolei is an important and vibrant part of the City and County of Honolulu,” said Wayne Yoshioka, Director of Transportation Services. “The rail transit will assure that Kapolei is well connected to other parts of Honolulu, and these roadway improvements will assure that mobility within the Kapolei area works for the existing and future development.”

For details on both DOT and DTS presentations, please go to Representative Har’s website at <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/members/house/memberpage.aspx?member=har> and download the pdf files in the “Documents and Links” section.

Rating the meeting a success, Rep. Har said, “I know I speak for my fellow elected officials when I say that I was very pleased so many people made time in their schedules to attend this meeting and ask questions directly of our local transportation officials.”



KAPOLEI PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT

Kapolei Property Development is an affiliate of the James Campbell Company with a focus on the development of the City of Kapolei, and on economic development and job creation in the Kapolei region.

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