



REPRESENTATIVE SHARON E. HAR

District 40 Update

Royal Kunia - Makakilo - Kapolei - Kalaeloa

NOVEMBER 2011

HAWAII STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Dear Friends:

I hope you and your families are doing well, and that you have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

I was thrilled to attend the dedication of the new H-1 eastbound on- and off-ramps at the Wakea St. extension earlier this month. This project will help alleviate traffic and provide more options for getting to and from Kapolei businesses. As this construction wraps up, several other area construction projects are getting underway, all while we continue to see progress on other developments such as the FBI building, UH-West Oahu and the Kroc Center.

As our community grows, it is also crucial that we support our local businesses that are helping us become a true "Second City," which is why I was so pleased to attend the opening of Kapolei Eye Care's new offices, as detailed on page 2.

Finally, please see page 2 for information on area upcoming events, including updates on the Nov. 12 - Nov. 13 security restrictions during the APEC meetings at Ko Olina.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any suggestions, questions or concerns. at 586-8500 or rephar@capitol.hawaii.gov.

Aloha,

Sharon Har
Representative, District 40
Kapolei, Makakilo,
Royal Kunia, Kalaeloa

New On- and Off-Ramps Bring Traffic Relief to Second City

On November 2, 2011, residents of West Oahu saw another milestone in improving connectivity and traffic in Kapolei with the opening of new H-1 eastbound entrance and exit ramps at the Wakea St. extension, located between the movie theater and Zippy's. The new extension and freeway ramps give drivers another option in traveling to and from Kapolei's businesses, and also create new connections between the area's major thoroughfares, improving traffic and the overall quality of life for our area.



Area officials celebrate the opening of H-1 eastbound on- and off-ramps at the Wakea St. extension. From left to right: Abraham Wong (Federal Highway Administration), David Rae (Kapolei Property Development), Jennifer Sabas (Office of Sen. Daniel Inouye), Rep. Sharon Har, Governor Abercrombie, Sen. Will Espero, Dept. of Transportation Director Glenn Okimoto and Kahu Kordell Kekoa.

The project was completed in partnership with the Federal Highway Administration, Kapolei Property Development, LLC/the James Campbell Company, LLC and the state Department of Transportation. Federal funding accounted for ninety-four percent of the project's \$18.7 million cost, with Kapolei Property Development providing an additional \$1 million in funding and donating 7.8 acres of land. Local utility companies funded another \$26,500. Significantly, no state funds were used for Phase I of this project.

After breaking ground in July 2009, the November opening of the new freeway ramps at Wakea St. marks the completion of Phase I of the Kapolei Interchange. Earlier this year, the westbound on-ramp from Makakilo Drive and the westbound exit IE to Farrington Highway were completed. These freeway improvements join other transportation projects, such as the widening of Fort Weaver Road and the construction of Kualakai Parkway, in an ongoing effort to improve traffic in the area. I know I join area residents in looking forward to further planned projects that meet the needs of West Oahu's residents and businesses.

Other Area Construction Updates

Makakilo Drive Improvements: Roadway improvements are scheduled to begin shortly on Makakilo Drive, adjacent to Chili's. The road will be widened to allow for the restriping of the makai-bound lanes of Makakilo Drive and the lengthening of left-turn "storage" lanes in the center of the road. Lane closures and traffic rerouting may be periodically required, and the sidewalk adjacent to Chili's will be closed during the work, which is expected to last until the end of the year. During that time, pedestrians will need to use the Diamond Head (east) side of the road to go up and down Makakilo Drive.

Barbers Point Elementary School: I was recently notified by the Abercrombie administration that work will begin soon on the renovation of the Building E restrooms at Barbers Point Elementary School. The \$128,028 contract was awarded to Close Construction, Inc.

Supporting Local Businesses

Earlier this fall, I was pleased to attend the grand opening of Kapolei Eye Care's new facility, located at 511 Manawai St., #401, in the mixed-use area of the Nanala at Mehana subdivision. Dr. Nancy Chen, MD, and her staff had previously served the community from their old office behind on Farrington Highway, and this new facility marks an exciting chapter for Kapolei Eye Care. Dr. Chen, a Makakilo resident, is licensed to practice medicine, diagnose and treat eye conditions and perform eye surgery. She is joined by Dr. Lea Young, OD, an optometrist who specializes in complete eye exams and contact lens fittings. Kapolei Eye Care has placed a special emphasis on community service, particularly on helping area senior citizens who do not have insurance.

Kapolei Eye Care is certainly one of the businesses that have played a very important role in our community's growth, as many area residents over the years have turned to Dr. Chen and her staff for ophthalmological, optometric and cosmetic procedures performed using the latest techniques and state-of-the-art equipment. As the West Oahu area continues to grow, the presence of a wide range of businesses and services is an essential component to making the Kapolei area a place where residents can truly live, work and play. It is more important than ever that we support our local businesses, like Kapolei Eye Care and so many others, as Kapolei grows into a true "Second City."



Rep. Sharon Har presents a congratulatory certificate to Dr. Nancy Chen on the grand opening of Kapolei Eye Care's new offices in the Nanala subdivision.

Upcoming Events

APEC Restrictions at Ko Olina: As I am sure you have seen in the news, the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) conference will be hosting its last day of meetings at the Ihilani Ko Olina resort on **Sunday, November 13**. Road closures and restrictions in our area will take place from **11 p.m. on Saturday, November 12 through approximately 11 p.m. on Sunday, November 13**. Residents and visitors should prepare for restrictions on the H-1 westbound and Farrington Highway the morning of November 13. Additionally, vehicle and pedestrian access will be restricted in parts of Ko Olina, including the H-1 exit to Ko Olina. The City and County of Honolulu's APEC Web site, www1.honolulu.gov/mayor/apec.htm, is a good source for information on road closures, beach closures and other information throughout the APEC week.

Kroc Center Community Meetings: On **Thursday, November 10** and **Thursday, November 17** at **6:30 p.m.** in the **Kapolei Middle School cafeteria**, the Salvation Army Kroc Center will be giving updates on construction progress and information on membership, employment opportunities, programs, rentals, health and wellness programs, ministry and more. Each session will also feature a drawing for two free month-long family memberships for those in attendance. RSVP by calling 682-5505.

Kapolei Family Fest: On **November 18-19**, the first annual Kapolei Family Fest will take place in the Kmart Kapolei parking lot from **5 until 11 p.m.** Live music, hula, games, face painting, entertainment and food trucks will be featured, with a portion of ticket sales supporting Waianae Community Outreach. Visit www.kapoleifamilyfest.com for more information.

Kalei'opu'u Elementary Craft Fair: Kalei'opu'u Elementary School (94-665 Ka'aholo St., Waipahu) will be hosting a free craft fair on **Saturday, November 19** from **9 a.m. to 2 p.m.** The fair will feature jewelry, baby items, towel sets, plants, clothes, bags, dolls and other handcrafted items. For more information or to exhibit, call 675-0266.

Mākeke Kapolei Farmers Market on Thursdays: After a successful opening day on **Thursday, October 20**, Mākeke Kapolei, a farmers' and green market, will be taking place **every Thursday from 3 to 6:30 p.m.** at **Kapolei High School**. Please contact [info@malamalearningcenter.org/692-8200 x2267](mailto:info@malamalearningcenter.org) or [waianaefarmersmarket@wcchc.com/672-3599](mailto:waianaefarmersmarket@wcchc.com) for more information.

Aloha Aina Day: Save the date for Kapolei High School's next Aloha Aina community recycling event on **Saturday, December 3, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.** at **Kapolei High**. For more information or to arrange free curbside pickup, call 306-1876.

Live and Let Live/Drive Safe 4 Ewa/Kapolei: HPD's annual campaign to promote safe driving during the busy holiday season will kick off with a public ceremony and sign-waving on **Saturday, December 3** at **8 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.** in front of the **Kapolei Police Station**. Call my office at 586-8500 for information on the other sign-waving events, taking place from Dec. 5—16.