



REPRESENTATIVE SHARON E. HAR

District 40 Update

Royal Kunia - Makakilo - Kapolei - Kalaeloa

NOVEMBER 2010

HAWAII STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Hawaii State Capitol

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Dear Friends and Neighbors:

With the elections behind us, I am very grateful and humbled that the voters of District 40 have chosen to elect me for another term in the legislature. We still have many challenges facing our district and our state, and I look forward to continuing to work toward solutions alongside members of our community and the new administration.

October saw many exciting events take place in our area. The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands broke ground on a new solar energy facility in Kalaeloa, while new affordable rental units for seniors were dedicated in Kapolei. I had the wonderful opportunity to celebrate Halloween at the Kapolei Public Library with many local families. I am also pleased to share some news about upcoming construction in Kalaeloa and at Mauka Lani Elementary.

As always, please contact me at rephar@capitol.hawaii.gov or 586-8500 with concerns or questions.

Aloha,

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

Kalaeloa One Solar Plant Breaks Ground

On October 27, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) broke ground on a significant new solar energy project in Kalaeloa. The five-megawatt Kalaeloa Solar One will be the state's largest Concentrating Solar Power (CSP) facility, a technology uniquely suited to our state's small island power grids. Operated by Keahole Solar Power on land leased from DHHL, Kalaeloa Solar One will incorporate the latest advances in solar technology, by concentrating solar power using mirrored reflectors and optics to intensify solar energy, which in turn increases the system's energy efficiency. By using solar panels that track the sun throughout the day and including thermal storage which enables energy to be produced during cloudy days or at night, the amount of energy the Kalaeloa Solar One system produces annually is significantly increased, with a goal of bringing 30 megawatts of solar power to Hawai'i by 2015.



Rep. Har joined, from left, Keahole Solar Power founder Darren Kimura, Governor Linda Lingle, DHHL Chairman Kaulana Park, Sen. Gabbard and Lt. Governor Duke Aiona in breaking ground for the Kalaeloa Solar One project.

The project is part of DHHL's overall sustainable energy policy called Ho'omaluo, which is intended to "enable native Hawaiians and the broader community working together to lead Hawai'i's effort to achieve energy self-sufficiency and sustainability," according to DHHL. This partnership marks DHHL's first renewable energy project, and will not only increase renewable energy production, but will also create local jobs and will provide income revenue rent for the department, with a portion of the lease rent proceeds to fund an educational renewable energy program for native Hawaiians. I'm very excited to have this important sustainable energy source in our district, which will play a critical role in creating a clean energy future for our state.

Halloween at Kapolei Public Library



Once again, the Kapolei Public Library hosted its popular Halloween Program. This year nearly 500 people participated in the event, held on October 19th, which featured activities, crafts and a costume contest. As in years past, I was delighted to serve as a judge for the costume contest, and it was wonderful to see the creativity of the keiki and their families. Pictured here are the winners of the family costume contest and some of my fellow judges: Sen. Mike Gabbard, Christopher Harris, Cheyenne Harris, Chanelle Chartand Harris, D.R. Horton's Lee Tokuhara and myself.

New Senior Residences Dedicated



From left, Darren Ueki (HHFDC), Sen. Mike Gabbard, Marvin Awaya (Executive Director, Pacific Housing Assistance Corporation), Rep. Sharon Har, Cheryl Fukunaga (U.S. HUD) and Kahu James Merseberg prepare to untie the lei at the dedication of the Senior Residences at Kapolei 2.

I was thrilled to attend the dedication of The Senior Residences at Kapolei 2 this past month, as these homes represent an important affordable rental option for our area seniors. Located in the A'eola village in Kapolei, the 20 one-bedroom units mark the second phase of these affordable senior residences, and also feature a centrally located laundry and mail room, 20 parking stalls and a gated entry. These units join the 59 units of Phase 1, which have been in operation since June 2009.

This development is the result of a successful public-private partnership between the Pacific Housing Assistance Corporation, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) and the City and County of Honolulu's HOME program. Residents can earn up to 50% of the area median income established annually by HUD, and rent subsidies from HUD allow residents to pay 30% of their income in rent. In addition to financing from various government entities, nominal \$1-per-year land lease rent and general excise tax exemption from the State and real property tax exemptions from the City and County were key parts of making this much-needed affordable senior rental housing a reality. It is a wonderful example of the good we can accomplish for our state's residents when we work together.

Construction Update - Kalaeloa Road Improvements and Mauka Lani Elementary

Residents of our district may notice a few more construction projects getting underway in the near future. We were recently advised by the Department of Education that construction on a \$1.68 million renovation of the Mauka Lani Elementary School in Makakilo will begin shortly.

Additionally, drivers in Kalaeloa will soon see work begin on several road safety improvement projects to address eroded shoulders on curves, eroded turn lanes and deteriorated pavement at five intersections. In addition to roadway repairs, additional signs will be installed to improve driver awareness and safety. The projects include: widening, restriping and adding signage at the "S" curve at Coral Sea Rd. and San Jacinto St.; improving the signage and pavement markings at Roosevelt Ave. and Philippine Sea Rd.; improving the "T" intersections at Coral Sea Rd. and Eisenhower Rd. and at Coral Sea Rd. and Tripoli St.; and modifying the "T" intersection at Coral Sea Rd. and Roosevelt Ave. to improve ease and safety of turning on to Roosevelt. These projects will be overseen and funded by the Hawaii Community Development Authority, and construction is expected to begin in early 2011, depending on the timing of required permits and approvals.

Rep. Har meets with volunteers at the Dyslexia Tutoring Center of Hawaii (DTCH) fundraiser at Wet 'n' Wild. From L to R are Leilani Hagmoc-Johnson, Rep. Har, Margarette Pang (DTCH Founder), Cris-helle Raposas and Melanie Gasilos.



At the Grand Opening celebration for the new Bank of Hawaii Kapolei branch in the Kapolei Commons Shopping Center on October 16th, Rep. Har and Sen. Gabbard presented CEO Peter Ho, Branch Manager Ryson Matsumura and Hawaii Branch Division Manager Darrick Ching with a certificate from the legislature.