



REPRESENTATIVE SHARON E. HAR

District 42 Update

Kapolei - Makakilo

NOVEMBER 2013

HAWAII
STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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UPDATE ON KAPOLEI 11 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Belt Collins, an international planning, design, and consulting firm, will be preparing an environmental assessment for the proposed Kapolei 11 Elementary School. The new school, which will be bounded by Fort Barrette Road to the East and Kenehi Street to the West, will be designed to serve up to 750 students in a Twenty First Century Learning Environment with spaces for students in grades Pre-K through 5. Facilities will include classrooms, a cafeteria, administrative space, class gardens, play areas, and space for eventual expansion, if needed.



With Representative Har's strong support as a member of the House Finance Committee, the Legislature appropriated \$40 million in 2012 for the new school.

The Department of Education is utilizing the design-build concept for the school's construction. Under this concept, design and construction services are contracted by a single entity. Design-build projects have been known to save both time and money, and generally produce higher quality workmanship.

The Department of Education hopes to be able to open the new school in the summer of 2015 if all goes well with the planning and design phase. The total cost of the new school is estimated to be \$37 million.

Dear Friends,

I hope this finds you and your families well. We have just wrapped up a challenging special session on same-sex marriage and are now preparing for regular session, which convenes on Wednesday, January 15, 2014. We will be busy through the holiday season as there is still much left to do before session convenes.

I continue to be open to your suggestions for bill introduction for the coming session but please be advised that the bill introduction deadline is on January 23, 2014, and that I may only introduce a limited number of bills. So please be sure to contact my office as soon as possible with any of your ideas. We look forward to hearing from you!

Thank you for your continued support. Serving our community during these challenging times is a great responsibility and one that I take very seriously. I remain humbled and honored to represent you. Please feel free to contact me at 586-8500 or rephar@capitol.hawaii.gov if I can ever be of assistance. Wishing all of you a safe and happy holiday season and a prosperous new year!

Aloha,

Sharon Har
Representative, 42nd District
Kapolei, Makakilo

FUNDS FOR UH WEST OAHU PROJECTS ARE RELEASED

The Abercrombie administration has released the following funds for UH West Oahu (UHWO) Capital Improvement Projects (CIP):

\$3.5 million in design and construction funds for UHWO Road B
\$41,000 in construction funds for minor repairs and improvements

Representative Har will continue to work hard to ensure that West Oahu gets its fair share of state capital improvement project funds.

HAWAII INDEPENDENT ENERGY REDEDICATES NEW CAMPBELL REFINERY

When the old Tesoro refinery closure was announced in 2012, the largest, looming question was not where Hawaii would get their oil from, but rather what would happen to the almost 500 workers that it employed. Fast forward a year later and the plant is not only back in operation (processing an estimated 94,000 barrels of crude oil per day), but it features the very same faces as a year ago. It would be easy to pay tribute to Hawaii Independent Energy for ensuring the continuity of 500 jobs in West Oahu. But what is more amazing, however, is their commitment to ohana – the very special family-like bonds that the refinery workers have with each other, and those bonds they share with the community. That is why I would like to focus this month's Second City Spotlight on Hawaii Independent Energy (HIE).

While the name has changed from "Tesoro" to "Hawaii Independent Energy", the look and feel around the Campbell plant remains the same. The clean sweep that normally accompanies corporate acquisitions did not happen. Instead, it was clear that there was an understanding that HIE did much more than just refine oil. When Par Petroleum acquired the Campbell property, they took responsibility for the 500 workers, their families, and the role that the refinery played in the community.

I was honored to be a part of such an important day in the grand reopening of the refinery. HIE has made an investment in our long term energy sustainability but more importantly in our people. Behind each of the 500 workers is a family that is dependent on the refinery. West Oahu businesses are sustained because they provide essential services to refinery workers.

While it is easy to criticize an operation like an oil refinery, it is difficult to truly realize and appreciate its impact on the community. The losses Hawaii suffered when Aloha Airlines went out of business many years ago is still fresh in many of our minds. We are fortunate that this bit of history did not repeat itself in the case of the refinery. While Hawaii's energy future is certain to change, what should not change is our commitment to ohana and to community, our commitment to the ties that bind us all .



Left to right, Lance Tanaka, Manager of Government Affairs at Hawaii Independent Energy; Bill Haywood, President and CEO of Hawaii Independent Energy; Will Monteone, CEO of PAR Petroleum; Representative Har; Peter Coxon, Chief Operating Officer of PAR Petroleum; and Tom Weber, Vice President of Operations at the Hawaii Independent Energy refinery.

FARRINGTON HIGHWAY CLOSED AGAIN

Please be advised that the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART) and its contractor, Kiewit Infrastructure West, has closed Farrington Highway between Kualakai Parkway (North-South Road) and Old Fort Weaver Road Loop in both directions through April 2014 as part of construction related to the rail project. We sympathize with those of you who have had their morning commute impacted in a negative way. In order to address traffic-related concerns, we have requested HART to provide a list of alternative routes that are viable while work is being performed. We have also asked HART to coordinate with the State Department of Transportation (HDOT) to provide other solutions to help mitigate traffic. Unfortunately, an earlier request by my office to HDOT to utilize the shoulder on the H-1 east bound as a contra-flow lane to help assist traffic flow was denied because of safety concerns for passing traffic. The closure of UH West Oahu and other campuses in the UH system for winter break may help lessen the traffic congestion during the morning commute into town.

Please visit the project website at www.honolulutransit.org or contact the project hotline at 566-2299 for updates on construction work days and times. For up-to-date traffic information, please visit goakamai.org or download the new GoAkamai App that is available for iPhone, Ipad, and Android mobile devices.