



REPRESENTATIVE
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Aloha,

The 2021 legislative session was shortened by a week with adjournment on April 29, 2021. This was a very stressful four months, with many ups and downs. We knew that there would be a huge deficit in State revenues and many programs and projects would not be funded at the same capacity as in the past. Tough choices needed to be made and it hurt to hear advocates plead for restoration of their funding; however, we did very well in balancing the budget.

I want to highlight three measures that I introduced as the first primary introducer. Two resolutions that were adopted by both the House and Senate were HCR 30, forming a community advisory committee for Polihale State Park, and HCR 37, - conducting a study to identify and recommend methods to alleviate traffic congestion at the Kalaheo Intersection and the Maluhia Tree Tunnel.

In addition, HB 119, - RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST KAUNALEWA, passed the Legislature. This bill authorizes the issuance of Special Purpose Revenue Bonds (\$10,000,000) for Kaunalewa. This organization proposes to obtain, remediate, and develop the Old Kekaha Sugar Mill. The Kekaha community is solidly behind this project and I am very appreciative of their

desire to create, among other things, a community marketplace, a tourist and cultural center, workforce development programs, and a hub for product creation and incubation.

On the issue of raising the minimum wage, which is currently at \$10.10 an hour, the proposal would have been to raise it to \$12.00 beginning July 1, 2022. This takes the effective date past the next legislative session in 2022. The House of Representatives felt that they could do better by working with the proponents throughout the rest of this year and come out with a much better bill for next session. Many have been upset that we did not pass something this year, but our main focuses were on dealing with public health crisis of COVID-19, achieving a balanced budget, and promoting economic recovery.

It was amazing to see the completion of the Waimea Canyon Middle School covered play court, however, it is even more amazing to obtain funding of \$27 million for a new gymnasium for Waimea High School. There are many CIP's highlighted in this newsletter. Your legislative team did an outstanding job of bringing funds to Kaua'i, and we will continue to work hard for our precious island.

Mahalo,



The State Budget

Each year, the Legislature is tasked with working on the State Budget. The COVID 19 Pandemic caused a tremendous budget shortfall worldwide, and evidently here in our state. **HB200, HD1, SD1, CD1**, appropriates funds for the operating and capital improvement budget of the Executive Branch for fiscal years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.

Capital Improvement Projects for House District 16 approved by the 2021 Legislature (HB 200, HD1 SD1, CD1)

Waimea High School, Kaua'i **FY22 \$27,000,000**
 Design and construction for gymnasium and other related facilities and improvements; ground and site improvements; equipment and appurtenances.

Koloa Elementary School, Kaua'i **FY22 \$932,000**
 Design and construction for various projects; projects may include parking lot repair, reroofing, and replacement of ceiling fans; ground and site improvements; equipment and appurtenances.

Kōke'e/Waimea Canyon State Park Complex, Kaua'i **FY22 \$1,500,000**
 Plans, design and construction of state parks infrastructure and parks improvements and related improvements, statewide. This project is deemed necessary to qualify for federal aid reimbursement and/or financing.

Kōke'e/Waimea Canyon State Park Complex, Kaua'i **FY22 \$1,000,000**
 Plans, design and construction of park facility, lookout, water system and related improvements; ground and site improvements; equipment and appurtenances.

Polihale State Park, Kaua'i **FY22 \$1,350,000**
 Plans, design and construction of cultural, environmental, recreational resource management, facility and infrastructure systems, roadway and parking improvements, and related improvements; ground and site improvements; equipment and appurtenances.

Waimea Canyon Drive/Kōke'e Road Improvements, Kaua'i **FY22 \$700,000**
FY23 \$1,000,000
 Design and construction for paved shoulders, installing guardrails, pavement markings and signs, and other improvements in the vicinity of Mile Post 0 to Mile Post 14. This project is deemed necessary to qualify for federal aid financing and/or reimbursement. (E Funds)

Waimea Canyon Drive/Kōke'e Road Improvements, Kaua'i **FY22 \$2,000,000**
FY23 \$4,000,000
 Design and construction for paved shoulders, installing guardrails, pavement markings and signs, and other improvements in the vicinity of Mile Post 0 to Mile Post 14. This project is deemed necessary to qualify for federal aid financing and/or reimbursement. (N Funds)

Port Allen Harbor Improvements, Kaua'i **FY22 \$1,000,000**
FY23 \$5,000,000
 Plans, land acquisition, design and construction of capital improvement program projects that will provide for safer, more efficient use of existing and/or additional operational areas throughout Port Allen Harbor. This project is deemed necessary to qualify for Federal aid Financing and/or reimbursement. (B, N, R, E Funds).

Other Notable CIP's approved for the Island of Kaua'i

Kaumuali'i Highway Improvements, Lihue to West of Maluhia Road, Kaua'i **FY23 \$200,000**
 Land acquisition for widening of Kaumuali'i Highway, Lihue to the west of Maluhia Road, from two to four lanes. This project is deemed necessary to qualify for federal aid financing and/or reimbursement. (E Funds)



The King Kaumuali'i statue is finally home at Pā'ūla'ūla



The Waimea Canyon Middle School Covered Play Court is finally completed



Kikiaola Small Boat Harbor improvements

Kaumuali'i Highway Improvements

**Lihue to West of Maluhia Road, Kaua'i .. FY23 \$800,000 (N Funds)
FY23 \$200,000 (E Funds)**

Land acquisition for widening of Kaumuali'i Highway, Lihue to the west of Maluhia Road, from two to four lanes. This project is deemed necessary to qualify for federal aid financing and/or reimbursement. (N Funds)

Guardrail and Shoulder Improvements on

**State Highways, Kaua'i FY22 \$2,000,000
FY23 \$400,000**

Construction for installing and/or upgrading of guardrails, end terminals, transitions, bridge railings, bridge endposts and crash attenuators, and reconstructing and paving shoulders. This project is deemed necessary to qualify for federal aid financing and/or reimbursement. (E Funds)

Guardrail and Shoulder Improvements on

State Highways, Kaua'i FY23 \$1,600,000

Construction for installing and/or upgrading of guardrails, end terminals, transitions, bridge railings, bridge endposts and crash attenuators, and reconstructing and paving shoulders. This project is deemed necessary to qualify for federal aid financing and/or reimbursement. (N Funds)

Traffic Operational Improvements to Existing FY22 \$2,500,000

Intersections and Highways, Kaua'i FY23 \$2,500,000

Construction for miscellaneous improvements to existing intersections and highway facilities necessary for improved traffic operation, including eliminating constrictions, modifying and/or installing traffic signals, constructing turning lanes, acceleration and/or deceleration lanes and other improvements. (E Funds)

Lump Sum Hawai'i Health Systems

**Corporation - Kaua'i Region FY22 \$3,000,000
FY23 \$5,000,000**

Design, Construction, and equipment for the Kaua'i Region of the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation for improvements and renovations, including new facilities, renovations, expansion, and/or replacement of facilities; ground and site improvements; equipment and appurtenances.

HB200 HD1, SD1, CD1

American Rescue Plan Act Appropriations

- \$160,020,792 in fiscal year 2022 and \$153,659,250 in fiscal year 2023 to repay a working capital loan;
- \$252,391 in fiscal year 2022 and \$5,091,175 in fiscal year 2023 to repay the federal unemployment insurance loan interest payable to ensure it does not become a long-term financial burden;
- \$700,000,000 in fiscal year 2022 to repay the unemployment insurance loan principal to ensure it does not become a long-term financial burden;
- \$32,315,400 in each fiscal year for the operations of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation hospitals statewide;
- \$11,585,000 in fiscal year 2022 and \$8,923,000 in fiscal year 2023 for Maui Health System operating subsidy;
- \$2,383,931 in fiscal year 2022 for Family Health Services and perinatal support services;
- \$1,500,000 in fiscal year 2022 for Senior Centers' contracted services;
- \$6,180,433 in fiscal year 2022 for staffing at the Hawaii State Hospital's new forensics unit;
- \$345,000 in each fiscal year for Health Resources Administration;
- \$307,775 in fiscal year 2022 and \$635,350 fiscal year 2023 for Worker's Compensation Claims to comply with Workers' Compensation Law (Chapter 386) and its related rules and regulations;
- \$275,000 in fiscal year 2022 for Unemployment Insurance Benefits to be in compliance with Section 383-62(b) Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- \$875,000 in fiscal year 2022 for Rapid Ohia Death Response to protect an important cultural and ecological mainstay;
- \$120,000 in each fiscal year for the Native Resources and Fire Protection Program;
- \$1,200,000 in fiscal year 2022 to fund economic analysis at the University of Hawai'i Economic Research Organization;
- \$4,000,000 in each fiscal year for Economic Planning and Research;
- \$11,000,000 in each fiscal year for Convention Center operations;
- \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2022 to support a Sea Urchin Hatchery working to properly care and restore an important part of the local ecosystem and economy;
- \$2,548,290 in fiscal year 2022 for Conservation and Resources Enforcement;
- \$431,937 in each fiscal year for the Disability Compensation Program for the Disability Compensation Program's modernization project;
- \$70,000,000 in fiscal year 2022 and \$35,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 for the Unemployment Insurance Program Call Center to more efficiently provide unemployment insurance services;
- \$9,700,000 in each fiscal year for centralized vacation payout statewide;
- \$5,400,000 in fiscal year 2022 to maintain general assistance payments and help prevent homelessness and increase health and safety for unemployable individuals with disabilities;
- \$500,000 in fiscal year 2022 for the Rental Supplement Program (RSP) to maintain the current assistance to low-income families;
- \$832,500 in each fiscal year to retain in-community youth programs to allow for continued services;
- \$520,000 in each fiscal year for operations at the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility;
- \$134,000 in fiscal year 2022 and \$1,137,000 in fiscal year 2023 for KOLEA maintenance and operations; and
- \$14,300,000 in each fiscal year for homeless services, including the Housing First Program, Rapid Re-Housing Program, Family Assessment Centers, Homeless Outreach and Civil Legal Services, and the Stored Property and Debris Removal Program.



Kaua'i Legislative Delegation, House of Representatives – Representative James K. Tokioka and Representative Nadine K. Nakamura

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Waimea High School Baseball Field improvements

The list below highlights previously approved CIP funds by the Legislature in recent years for House District 16. The monies for these projects have since been released by Governor Ige.

2020 CIP Releases

- Kaua'i Veterans Memorial Hospital**..... **\$650,000**
 This project will provide design, construction, and equipment funds for the purchase and installation of a 3D mammography machine at Kaua'i Veterans Memorial Hospital.
- Kaua'i Veterans Memorial Hospital** **\$300,000**
 This project will provide design and construction funds to renovate space and relocate the IT Server Room at Kaua'i Veterans Memorial Hospital.
- Kaua'i Veterans Memorial Hospital, CT Scan Room Renovation, Kaua'i** **\$1,400,000**
 This project will provide design and construction funds for renovations of the CT scan room.
- Kekaha Elementary School, School Repair and Maintenance, Kaua'i** **\$2,050,000**
 To finance design and construction to address significant repair and maintenance issues. (Date Correction to last year's 2020 Newsletter, CIP was released on 02/21/2020)
- Kekaha Bridge** **\$600,000**
 To finance the repair and implementation of improvements to the Kekaha Bridge.
- Boys and Girls Club of Hawai'i – Kapa'a, Lihu'e, and West Kaua'i Clubhouses**..... **\$200,000**
 For facility improvements and repairs.
- Waimea Canyon Drive/Köke'e Road Improvements Phase 2, Milepost 0.0 to Milepost 14.0, Kaua'i** **\$100,000**
 Funds for additional design for Phase 2 improvements.
- Kaua'i Economic Opportunity, Incorporated (GIA)** **\$500,000**
 Food service facility benefitting Kaua'i Island.

2021 CIP Releases

- Kaua'i Veterans Memorial Hospital (HHSC Kaua'i Lump Sum)** **\$675,000**
 This project will provide design, construction, and equipment funds to upgrade the air conditioning systems at Kaua'i Veterans Memorial Hospital.
- Kaua'i Veterans Memorial Hospital** **\$1,300,000**
 This project will provide design and equipment funds for the purchase and installation of a CT scan machine at Kaua'i Veterans Memorial Hospital, Kaua'i.
- Guardrail and Shoulder Improvements at Various Locations, Kaua'i** **\$1,258,000**
 Finance the design and construction for guardrail and shoulder improvements on State highways on Kaua'i.

Legislation Introduced by Rep. Morikawa as 1st Primary Introducer that passed the 2021 Session

- HB 119, HD1, SD1, CD1 - RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST KAUNALEWA.** Replaces E Ola Mau Na Leo O Kekaha with Kaunalewa as the entity authorized to receive special purpose revenue bonds issued to assist with the acquisition, remediation, and development of the old Kekaha Sugar Mill in Kekaha, Kaua'i, Hawai'i. (CD1)
- HCR 37, HD1, SD1/HR 30, HD1** - Requesting the Department of Transportation and Kaua'i Department of Public Works to conduct a study to identify and recommend methods to alleviate traffic congestion at certain intersections along Kaumualii Highway (Maluhia & Opu Roads intersection with Kaumualii Highway).
- HCR 30, HD1/HR 23, HD1** - Requesting the Department of Land and Natural Resources to establish a community advisory committee for Polihale State Park on the island of Kaua'i.