

## **North Hawaii Projects and Programs**

### **Portions of North Kona - North & South Kohala - Hamakua Coast**

#### **1 - Kona International Airport Improvements (State):**

**General Aviation Site Preparation (State):** 2-FBO Lease Lots, 1 Jet & 4 AV-Gas Lease Lots, Paved Aircraft Apron Area, Cargo Road "C" Extension, New Sewer Lift Station, Taxiway "D" Fillet Improvements. Cost: \$7.0-million; **Sewer Connection (State):** Demolish Existing Airport Treatment Plant and Provide New Connection to County WWTP, Two New Pumps Station, New Sewer Line Along WWTP Access Road. Cost: \$1.8-million; **Employee Parking Lot (State):** Expands Overcrowded Employee Parking Lot Cost: \$800,000; **In-Flight Kitchen (Private):** Private Developer Initiative, Airport Division Leases Land.

**2 - Repair and Resurfacing of "Mauka Road" (State):** Six miles of the "mauka road" between Waimea and Kailua (Highway 190) will be repaired and resurfaced in the vicinity of the Waikoloa Road. Project limits are from approximately the 10-mile marker (on the Waimea side of the Waikoloa Road - at the end point of the latest resurfacing project) to past the 16-mile marker - from Keamuku to Puuanahulu. Future projects include continuation of the repair and resurfacing of Highway 190 toward Kailua.

**3 - Traffic Signals at Queen Kaahumanu Highway and Waikoloa Village & Resort Roads (State):** Traffic signals will be installed by the State Department of Transportation at the intersections of Queen Kaahumanu Highway and the Waikoloa (Village) Road and Waikoloa Resort Road.

**4 - Flood Investigations at Waikoloa Village (County cooperating with Federal Agencies):** County Public Works is working the Army Corps of Engineers in evaluating the flood challenges in Waikoloa Village.

**5 - Traffic Calming at Paniolo-Waikoloa Intersection (County):** County Traffic and Highways personnel are investigating traffic calming ideas on the Waikoloa Rd. An immediate solution included remarking, narrowing and sharing the automobile travel lanes at the intersection of Paniolo Drive and Waikoloa Rd as a traffic calming measure; a more drastic approach is a 4-way stop at this intersection. According to Traffic Division, a traffic signal is not "warranted" at this intersection at this time.

**6 - Waikoloa Emergency Access Road (County cooperating with the Community):** Waikoloa Community Association identified the need for an emergency access out of Waikoloa Village (presently served by only a single access – Paniolo Drive. The County is assisting the community by getting the community in touch with individuals and agencies that can assist in the project

(County Engineers to assist in the planning, design and surveying, military representatives to review ordinance removal, and possible construction help from Kulani Prison.)

**7 - Waikoloa Road Emergency Truck Ramp (County working with the Community):** County Engineers will design an emergency truck ramp above the “S” turn, above Waikoloa Village, on Waikoloa Road. A group of local trucking companies will coordinate the construction of the emergency ramp and the County will maintain the ramp.

**8 - Waikoloa Village Solid Waste Transfer Station (County):** The County is investigating the placement, construction and operation of a solid waste transfer station to serve the Waikoloa Village community.

**9 - Kawaihae Deep Draft Harbor Feasibility Study (State):** The feasibility study identifies and formulates potential alternatives that improve navigation conditions in Kawaihae Harbor and obtains approval from higher U.S. Army Corps of Engineers authority for project construction. These alternative plans will be evaluated for engineering adequacy, economic viability, environmental acceptability and project sponsor support. Cost: \$1.2-million

**10 - Kohala Intergenerational Center (County working with the Community):** Situated in Kamehameha Park, recently celebrated its opening, marking the completion of a nearly ten-year dream by the Kohala Community to have a place where the youth and older persons can congregate, share time, talent and thoughts, and build self esteem.

Construction of the Center was a cooperative effort between the County and the Community with residents and local businesses donating their time and expertise. The 2,680-sq ft Center has a certified kitchen, conference room, office & storage.

The YWCA of Hawaii Island, in partnership with the Center, will oversee and coordinate youth and senior programs. Kupuna will support the youth, teaching them skills & responsibilities, helping with schoolwork, mentoring & shaping attitudes and values.

**11 - Waimea Bypass Road (State):** The State has longed talked about a bypass road around Waimea - alignments were considered as far back as 1969. Lately, the State has had discussions with the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) and affected DHHL lessees to consider an alternative alignment around Waimea, through DHHL lands - from the Mealani Ag Station to the Airport. In addition, the “Waimea Bypass” continues from the Airport - makai, through

Lalamilo lands and ends up near the Kawaihae Road/Queen Kaahumanu intersection.

**12 - Waimea Trails and Greenways (County cooperating with the Community):**

The first portion of the Waimea Trail and Greenways project, directly to the left and right just inside the entrance to the Waimea Nature Park, is now open to the public.

Though this first open stretch is less than a mile, it now connects with a network of trails inside the Nature Park, and will eventually be ten or more miles in length.

The Trail will create a green corridor through the heart of Waimea along the Waikoloa Stream and will provide an accessible connecting pathway between residences, businesses & schools.

**13 - Mamalahoa Highway (Kawaihae Road – Waimea Park to Merriman's) (County):** Hawaii County Public Works Department is investigating traffic mitigation measures along Mamalahoa Highway - Kawaihae Road – Waimea Park to Merriman's.

Short-term, “quick” & inexpensive solutions are expected to include creating left turn pockets and/or dual left-turn lanes. The intent is to use the existing road corridor and, after minor paving and other improvements, remark the roads with through lanes and turning pockets - this permits turners to get out of the flow of traffic and free movement for the through traffic. Construction will be done “in house.”

**14 - Proposed Waimea Middle School (State and Community):** Waimea community members and developers are discussing with the State Department of Education the prospect of a privately constructed state-of-the-art Middle School in Waimea. Though privately built, the proposal suggests that the State will purchase the school and operate it under the Department of Education system.

The proposal also suggests the school will offer programs well beyond the conventional middle school curriculum and will operate as a “community school” providing community education and other life-long learning opportunities. The proposed school will serve the Hamakua School Complex, from Waikoloa to Paauilo.

**15 - Waimea Regional Park (County):** Through land use entitlement conditions, Parker Ranch gave 25-acres of land in the Lalamilo section of Waimea for a regional County Park facility. The County will be working with the community with the design and development of the park.

**16 - Skate Park at Waimea Park (County working with the Community):** County Parks and Recreation has entered into a cooperative agreement with the Salvation Army where the community will build, operate and maintain a Skate Park in the corner of Waimea Community Park behind the basketball courts. The majority of the skate park features will be less than five feet, with an area with vertical ramps at a minimum of six feet tall. The park also will feature ledges, stairs, pyramids, banks and transitions.

**17 - Youth and Community Facility in Waimea for Recreation and Learning (County working with the Community):** County representatives are meeting with community representatives to investigate and identify strategies for building a facility to serve the recreational and learning needs of youth, families and the community. Facilitated by Five Mountains Hawaii, the broad-based community group is identifying existing community assets, plans and programs.

**18 - Disposition of Properties Acquired from Hamakua Sugar (County):** In 1994, Hawaii County accepted approximately 4,400-acres of land as a settlement for retroactive real property taxes from Hamakua Sugar. The properties are primarily situated in Paauilo mauka and Kukuihaele mauka. A "Land Management Committee" of the County is formed and is evaluating the property. Disposition of the properties may be by negotiated sale, lease, exchange, or other means.

The County is considering the ownership and maintenance of some of the former sugar cane haul roads that serve the parcels and other neighboring privately-owned lands.

**19 - Pohakuloa Training Area - Army Transformation (Federal):** Transformation is the process of making the US Army more responsive, deployable, agile, versatile, lethal, survivable and sustainable. It fills the operational gap between slower moving heavy forces, such as armored or mechanized infantry, and lighter more deployable units, like light infantry.

The Interim Brigade Combat Team (IBCT) is part of what is called the Interim Force, which is the bridge between the current Legacy Force, and the final transformed force called the Objective Force.

As part of this transformation the Army has proposed Hawaii as the location for one of several IBCTs. The Army proposes to transform the 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (Light) at Schofield Barracks into an IBCT (training for these forces include Pohakuloa.)

The plan would add approximately 480 soldiers and 400 additional vehicles. It

would affect the islands of Oahu and Hawaii and include approximately 32 projects that could total as much as \$693-million.

**20 - Saddle Road Improvements (State-Federal):** The Federal Highway Administration, (FHWA), in cooperation with the State of Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) is proposing to improve Saddle Road, State Route 200 (SR 200).

The proposal would upgrade and modernize Saddle Road as a two-lane highway that would meet engineering design standards for rural arterials and provide adequate capacity to handle anticipated traffic volumes through 2014 and beyond.

The portion of Saddle Road to be improved by this project is approximately 78 kilometers (km) in length and extends from the Mamalahoa Highway (SR 190) to Milepost (MP) 6, near Hilo, Hawaii.

Existing Saddle Road is approximately 85 km in length extending west from Hilo to its junction with the Mamalahoa Highway (SR 190), approximately 10 km south of Waimea, on the Island of Hawaii. It was constructed in 1942 by DOA.

Saddle Road is the only paved road serving the astronomical observatory complex on Mauna Kea, Waikii Ranch, upper Kaumana, Mauna Kea State Recreation Area, Kilohana Girl Scout Camp, and major hunting areas. It is also an important cross-island link for business travel, the transport of goods and services, tourism, recreation and shopping.

**21 - Saddle Road Improvements, Phase I (State):** This project will widen and realign the existing 18- to 20-foot wide, two-lane roadway in the vicinity of the Army's Pohakuloa Training Area headquarters from milepost 28 (Mauna Kea Access Road) to milepost 34.

The improvements will correct inadequate sight distance, substandard roadway and shoulder widths and substandard horizontal and vertical alignments to meet current design standards and will provide increased safety, reduce conflicts with the military and increase the carrying capacity of the roadway. This project is the first phase of the ultimate improvement to the Saddle Road. Cost: \$30-Million

**22 - Waipio Valley Community Circle (County working with the Community):** Kupuna, taro farmers, educators, tour operators and both large and small property owners meet regularly to discuss the challenges and future of Waipio Valley. The group is called the Waipio Valley Community Circle.

There are a number of longstanding issues related to land use and access in the

Valley and the group is identifying common goals and interests to find areas where there is agreement, rather than differences.

Circle participants have mutually agreed the description of the valley is: Waipio Valley is Wahi Pana (legendary or sacred places, alive with enchantment, experiences of the past and mana of its present.)

Various County department representatives (Mayor's Office, Parks, Public Works, Planning, Prosecutor, Police, Fire, etc.) participate and share information about each department's purpose and how it interfaces with Waipio Valley.

Like Waipio Valley, the circle process is powerful and is a model process that every community can benefit from - and the model does not have to form just to address conflicts.

**23 - Repair and Resurfacing of "Belt Highway" (State):** State DOT is repairing and resurfacing a portion of the Belt Highway in the vicinity of Paauilo.