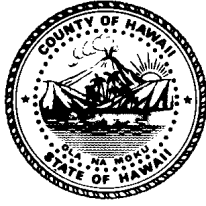


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Mayor



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## COUNTY OF HAWAII

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 18, 2008

**Contact Person:** Bruce C. McClure, P.E.  
Director, Department of Public Works  
(808) 961-8321 Monday - Friday 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
(808) 557-6437 After hours, Noelani Whittington  
[www.co.hawaii.hi.us](http://www.co.hawaii.hi.us) Click on Public Works

### ***County schedules upgrade of Ali'i Drive/Kamehameha III traffic signal***

The County Department of Public Works will upgrade the traffic signals at the intersection of Ali'i Drive and Kamehameha III Road from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 26.

This upgrade is one of the short-term, traffic mitigation improvements planned prior to the proposed opening of the northern portion of the Māmalahoa Hwy Bypass, which is currently on the County of Hawai'i Council agenda for approval.

Crews will install a new signal control cabinet and change the traffic phasing, according to Ron Thiel, chief of the County's traffic division.

The new traffic-phasing plan will give exclusive green lights for the makai-bound and the mauka-bound traffic. This means that the makai-bound traffic will have a green left-turn arrow and a green arrow for the thru-lane movement. The mauka-bound traffic will have an exclusive green light for the thru, left- and right-turn lanes with no oncoming traffic.

"This signal change will give better right-of-way assignments, and the new signal controller will give us increased signal efficiency," Thiel said.

The work is scheduled to start at 9 a.m. and is expected to be completed by 1 p.m. Police officers will be on duty to direct traffic during the upgrade. Signs are already in place at the intersection to alert motorists of the new traffic patterns starting on April 26.

The signal at the intersection of Kuakini Highway and Kamehameha III and Walua roads was upgraded in February.

"We noticed an immediate improvement in traffic flow following the upgrade at that intersection," Thiel said.

The County has also permanently installed a smart sign on Ali'i Drive about 1,000 feet mauka of the Kaleiopapa Street intersection. This sign initially recorded vehicular volume and speeds to provide data on current traffic conditions. When the display is turned on, drivers will be given "Your Speed" feedback, which Thiel hopes will aid in reducing the speed of the existing traffic along Ali'i Drive.

For more information about additional short- and long-term improvements for the Māmalahoa Bypass, visit the County's Web site <http://co.hawaii.hi.us/info/projects.htm>, and click on "Māmalahoa Bypass."