

Re: Transportation Improvement Program for Kauai 

Hwy Stip Projects to: Wendy Akita

05/21/2014 09:20 AM

Sent by: **Patrick Tom**

Cc: Ken Tatsuguchi, Raymond J McCormick, mmoule, Idill, jaiu

Bcc: Jill M Tanabe

Ms. Akita,

Thank you for your comments and opinions re: the priorities for Kauai's Highway program. We will compile all the public input that we receive and mix it with the priorities established from our management systems, individual project schedules and readiness, and administrative priorities to financially constrain our federal aid highways program (the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program - STIP).

Also, yes, there is a open house/public informational meeting scheduled for tonight (Wednesday, 5/21) at 6pm at the King Kaumualii Elementary School Cafe. The discussion will be about Kauai County's proposed future new Hanamaulu to Puhi road.

For your information, I've attached the link to Kauai County's press release webpage where the press release for this meeting is posted.

<http://www.kauai.gov/default.aspx?tabid=346>

I have copied this response and your comments to our State District Office on Kauai and Kauai County's Department of Public Works for their information.

Patrick Tom
HDOT STIP Manager

Wendy Akita

Wendy Akita <wendywakita@yahoo.com>

05/20/2014 04:36:56 PM



Wendy Akita
<wendywakita@yahoo.com>

05/20/2014 04:36 PM

Please respond to
Wendy Akita

<wendywakita@yahoo.com>

To "hwy.stip.projects@hawaii.gov"
<hwy.stip.projects@hawaii.gov>,

cc

Subject: Transportation Improvement Program for Kauai

I understand there is a information sharing &/or hearing about a bypass road behind Lihue (Hanamaulu to Puhi) which is fine for a future project. But, our #1 priority should be to effect a permanent bypass road for Kapaa.

The traffic jams through Kapaa town are seriously threatening businesses & north shore residents. The traffic flow through Kapaa town has continued to get worse for the past 38 years. We moved to Lihue 2 years ago so I don't have to deal w Kapaa traffic too often.

It sometimes takes an hour or more to get from one side of Kapaa to the other. It shouldn't take more than 15 to 20 minutes for that distance. When we lived in the Homesteads, I either went into Kapaa town before 10 a.m. or after 7 p.m. Our school buses are frequently bogged down in traffic through Kapaa town. As much as possible they take the back roads (Olohena & Kawaihau Roads & their feeders) to avoid the log jams in Kapaa town.

Wendy Akita
Akita Enterprises, Limited

2960 Aukele St.
Lihue HI 96766-1462
Phone: 808-245-5344
FAX: 808-245-3246

BERNARD P. CARVALHO, JR.
Mayor



NADINE K. NAKAMURA
Managing Director

COUNTY OF KAUAI

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

News Release

For Immediate Release: May 13, 2014

LARRY DILL, COUNTY ENGINEER
Tel (808) 241-4996
Fax (808) 241-6604

County seeks public input on proposed Hanamā'ulu to Puhi road

HANAMĀ'ULU – An open house and public information meeting will be held next week to discuss a proposed road that would run from Hanamā'ulu to Puhi. If pursued, it would be built in phases on former cane haul roads.

The meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, May 21, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the King Kaumuali'i Elementary School cafeteria, 4380 Hanamā'ulu Road.

The doors will open at 6 p.m. to provide the public with the opportunity to view displays of the project prior to the formal presentation, which will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Currently in the feasibility analysis phase, the proposed road is designed to address existing and future congestion, improve multi-modal travel, and provide an additional route for emergency responders and evacuation.

Written comments will also be accepted via email sent to the project manager James "Kimo" Aiu, jaiu@kauai.gov.

If you need an ASL interpreter, materials in an alternate format, or other auxiliary aid for the meeting, please contact Aiu at 241-4153 at least seven days before the meeting.

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Re: STIP Comments - Kauai

Hwy Stip Projects

to:

Hanalei Roads Committee

05/28/2014 11:29 AM

Cc:

Raymond J McCormick, Ken Tatsuguchi

Bcc:

Jill M Tanabe

Hide Details

From: Hwy Stip Projects/HWY/HIDOT

To: "Hanalei Roads Committee" <HRC@hawaii.rr.com>,

Cc: Raymond J McCormick/HWY/HIDOT@HIDOT, Ken Tatsuguchi/HWY/HIDOT@HIDOT

Bcc: Jill M Tanabe/HWY/HIDOT

Ms. Robeson,

Thank you for your comments and participation in our planning and programming process. We will use all the comments we receive and mix them into the information we have from our management systems and our own statewide priorities to find the balance when we financially constrain the 2015-2018 (+2) STIP.

Patrick Tom
STIP Manager

-----"Hanalei Roads Committee" <HRC@hawaii.rr.com> wrote: -----

To: <hwy.stip.projects@hawaii.gov>

From: "Hanalei Roads Committee" <HRC@hawaii.rr.com>

Date: 05/27/2014 10:00AM

Cc: "McCormick Ray" <Raymond.J.McCormick@hawaii.gov>

Subject: STIP Comments - Kauai

Aloha from the Hanalei Roads Committee,

We attended the Kauai meeting on May 20, and at your request, HRS ranks **KS 9** as the **highest priority on the Kauai list as the 1912 & 1913 Waioli, Waipa and Waikoko Bridges** are on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

HRS was formed in 1976 to preserve the 1912 Hanalei Bridge which had the support from our late-Senator Daniel Inouye.

Mahalo for the information provided at your meeting.

Barbara Robeson
Co-chair

From: Glenn Mickens <glennruth2030@gmail.com>
Subject: Our roads
Date: May 20, 2014 1:14:25 PM HST
To: All members of the HDOT

My biggest question and concern about the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) is that it continually incorporates biker and multi use paths in its plans on a high prioritized basis.

There is no concern about the safety use of these paths or what areas they are built. Nor is any study ever done by the Feds, State or local governments to see what the cost per usage will be as is done with our roads and highways.

For instance that beautiful, traffic alleviating project by KCC that my friend, Ray McCormick pushed to completion has bike lanes crossing vehicle off ramps, truly an accident waiting to happen. Only the fact that very few people ride bikes in these lanes will limit accidents from happening but even one accident can cost tax payers a lot of law suit money.

We have a sidewalk bike path makai of Safeway in Kapaa that has driveways crossing it. A reported young child riding a bike on this "path" was narrowly missed from being hit by a car backing out of one of these driveways.

We have cars driving on and parking on the path by the Kapaa Neighborhood center whereas the law states the no motor vehicles will be allowed on this path.

Along with the safety factor that is totally ignored in the planning and building stages, I must ask why this path is on the priority list when probably less than 1% of transportation users on this Island use bikes to commute? Are you HDOT people mandated to put these paths wherever a road or highway is built and if so, why?

Joe Rosa helped build a bike route along our highways 40 years ago and for lack of use it wasn't maintained and the highway was widened narrowing it.

So now those in power are spending \$5.2 million per mile to build a 10 foot wide 4 inch slab of cement to duplicate a mistake!! When this project was started 10 years ago it was to be for "transportation and not for recreation" to conform to Fed regulations but it hasn't taken one vehicle off the road and is basically a dog walking path.

Even if you think a multi use path is needed why is there no oversight (from the Feds who are footing 80% of the bill or the locals who are paying the other 20%) to see why this obscene amount of money is being spent---more than what you spend on our roads!!

The automobile is and will remain the primary mode of transportation for 95% or more of the commuting population. We desperately need alternate roads to alleviate traffic and have avenues of escape in case of a disaster.

We need you members of the HDOT to plan and build what the mass of the public needs--not a multi million dollar red herring bike path.

From: Glenn Mickens <glennruth2030@gmail.com>
Subject: **July 23 meeting**
Date: July 22, 2014 6:57:15 PM HST
To: DOT members

In checking out the latest State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) I note that the biggest expenditure of the County in the future will be for the multi use path.

Their objective would be far better served if their purpose was to serve the needs of those who need or choose to use their own vehicles for transportation and that their attention should be on improving the quality of the highway system. Multi use paths may have attraction for some but they are not transportation systems.

No bike, bus or walking will ever be a substitute for the individual vehicle, that is a hard cold fact. If you doubt this statement then use yourself and your friends as examples and see what you use to for transportation.

The County offered FREE bus rides to all 1500 of their employees for a month and a total of 50 took advantage of this offer!!

No expensive study needs to be done to show that we need more alternate and wider roads to alleviate traffic and make it safer for commuters in case of a natural disaster.

Originally that bike path was built as a means of transportation and not recreation to satisfy Federal Guidelines but a simple look will show that not one vehicle has left our roads because of it. In fact there are those who have shown that traffic may have increased due to the people who use their vehicles to get to the path to walk their dogs!!

The bike routes that Joe Rosa helped build 35 years ago are still

along our highways but for lack of use they are not maintained. So why is someone still pushing for MORE bike lanes whereas HDOT needs more funds to alleviate traffic as they have done with the wonderful project still on going by KCC---give them what they need for the benefit of the masses and not syphon off funds for a feel good bike path. Just how many bikes do you see on the bike paths that have been built thus far as compared to the number of cars?

Glenn Mickens
Kapaa