

FARRINGTON HIGHWAY CORRIDOR STUDY

NĀNĀKULI 'ĀINA MEETING ROUND #1: TRANSPORATION ISSUES & BEHAVIORS

Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Date: Monday, February 24, 2020

Location: Nānākuli Public Library (89-070 Farrington Highway)

Event Description

This 'Āina meeting was the first of three rounds of meetings to be held in Nānākuli for the Hawai'i State Department of Transportation (HDOT) Farrington Highway Corridor Study. For HDOT, the purpose of the meeting was to introduce the project to the Nānākuli community, gather input on critical transportation issues, and learn how people get around in their community. The input provided will go towards the development of recommendations for Farrington Highway that meets the needs of Westside communities into the future.

The project team shared a presentation of what has been done so far for the project, facilitated a group discussion and breakout session, and provided information on how the community can continue to participate and provide input for the project. Attendees received copies of the agenda, as well as copies of the presentation, project fact sheet, and comment sheets. A copy of the meeting presentation is appended to this meeting summary.

Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Slideshow Presentation and Q&A
- **Breakout Session**
- Report back, Next Steps, and Wrap-up.



Project Team Attendees:

HDOT: Ed Sniffen, Patrick Tom, Pua Aiu

SSFM: Jared Chang, Melissa May, Susan LeBrun, Matthew Fernandez, Carlos Kelton

UH West O'ahu: Dr. Lelemia Irvine

Stakeholder Attendees

Attendees at the meeting included State representatives, neighborhood board members, and community residents.

Name

State Representatives & Agencies

- 1. Stacelynn Eli, House of Representatives Dist.#43
- 2. Patrice Tanna, Senator Maile Shimabukuro Office
- 3. Shaena HooHui, Rep. Cedric Gates Office

Neighborhood Board Members

- Tim Riley, Wai'anae NB Transportation Committee Chair
- 2. Elizabeth Dixon, Neighborhood Board #36

Community Members

- 1. Alyson Hiapo
- 2. Angelica Beniculo, Student
- 3. Aueu Cardines
- 4. Charles Gumm
- 5. Charlita Mahoe
- 6. Chaz Grouveia, Student
- 7. Clyde Hagash
- 8. David Carona
- 9. Don P. Matsuman
- 10. Edline Wenme

- 11. Edmond Arquero
- 12. Erin Kaueanalahe
- 13. Georgie Keiki
- 14. Harriet Kuni
- 15. Jacob Kund
- 16. John Rogers, HBC
- 17. Joseph Wargo
- 18. Kathleen Davenport
- 19. Kau'i Arce
- 20. Lorne Clark
- 21. Makoa Umeda, Student
- 22. Mel Kahele, Iron Workers Stab 625
- 23. Molly Gumm
- 24. Pat Savage
- 25. Paul H. Aio
- 26. Phreya Alyanna Castales, Student
- 27. Rich Levine
- 28. Rick Enagge, Wai'anae High Teacher
- 29. Rick McDonald, Hawaiian Princess Hotel
- 30. Roland Lee
- 31. Sheldon Konno, HIDOE Vice Principal
- 32. Wendy Gumm
- 33. Zeb and Nancy Jones



Notes from Q&A and Breakout Group Sessions

Notes from Q&A following the presentation are documented below. Following the Q&A session, attendees were separated into two breakout groups and were given the opportunity to provide more in-depth input on the various issues and opportunities the community encounters as they move along the Wai'anae Coast. Individual group comments were recorded, summarized, and presented back to the whole group following the activity. Large maps of the Wai'anae Coast were provided to each group to gather additional comments. Attendees were also given comment sheets to provide written comments. The input from the group discussions and comment sheets is also documented in this section.

Presentation Q&A Session

- Q: Will we use the recommendations in the O'ahu pedestrian and bike plan?
 - o A: Yes!
- Q: When will things happen? All these issues have been around for many years. What can we do today? Open bridge, add sidewalks, and the contraflow is great.
 - o **A:** This administration has gotten \$120M for the Leeward Coast.
 - o A. This project will provide the basis for funding of specific short and long-term projects for Farrington Highway.
 - o A: Population and vehicles have increased with no development. Development brings funds for improvements.
 - o A: Other projects have benefited the coast.
- Q: Is O'ahu Railway and Land Company (OR&L) land available for car transportation, like adding an extra lane to Farrington?
 - A: It's a historic property. SHPD requires it to be relocated, not removed.
 - o Maybe the community can band together to lobby for the use of this space.
- **Q**: Are the number of crashes here comparable to other areas?
- Q: Are you partnering with the City & County of Honolulu to ensure solutions are holistic?
 - A: This study is limited to the State facility Farrington Highway. However, we realize there are concerns that extend to City & County roads and are documenting those. We can provide that input to the City & County.
- Q: Funding is funding available for 2-20 years? What's being covered?
 - A: Solutions for short and long-term improvements to Farrington Highway that address safety, congestion, and resilience.
- Q: How much is the Farrington Highway Corridor Study costing?
 - o **A:** \$500K.
- During a storm, the beginning of Nānākuli is like a river.
- Huge number of trucks flowing into Nānākuli Traffic starts earlier and earlier big change in last 30 years.
- The only solution is an alternative road. Continuing contraflow is a problem can't turn left.
- Trucks coming from landfill won't let us out.
- Global warming have to start thinking about moving. Also, evacuation from emergencies.
- Q: Bridge by Nānākuli Park what to do with it?



- A: We are working with the City. They own it, built it for emergency purposes.
- o A: They can open it for pedestrians without changing the EA.
- Make the train go around the island.
- Want to focus on what we can do in the next 2 years.
- Honokai Hale should be included.
 - o **A:** The portion of Farrington fronting Honokai Hale is included in the Study.
- Look at mauka area to use the land is ours.
- Build a corridor above the highway divide traffic flow by direction, or separate commuters from local traffic.

Breakout Session (Group 1)

- What is happening with Kolekole Pass? Army doesn't want it.
- Some people work on North Shore/Mililani. Can we get a road thru Kolekole or around island?
- Like the idea of a boat/ferry from Barbers Point.
- Lots of studies done in the past, one thing listening to is housing moratorium, water, and education.
 We need to be able to have teachers stay within the community here. Increase opportunities here.
 What can we do with the road now? We need to start listening to things and studies done before.
- What can we as a community get in the near-term?
- Safety is a big issue (car accidents), what can be accomplished in a short period of time?
- Haleakalā Avenue (one-turn lane) during the contraflow, need an access.
- Bus routes (403) gets delayed.
- Q: What have we learned so far from Kolekole Pass?
 - A: Issue military owns it. Road has to be brought up to standards if turned over to the City/State.
 - o Suggestion: Partner with military so DOD workers in the area don't have to go all the way around to get there.
 - We used to be able to access at one point in the past.
 - o Pa'akea Pass as another option.
- Bus pull-outs yes!
- Can the State do something with opening Kolekole Pass?
- Work on another *mauka* highway.
- Will the 2nd access be public or only emergency route?
- We need a road behind the powerplant to Nānākuli (mini bypass).
- We need an access to Kunia.
- On Nānākuli Avenue, cars from Farrington Highway cut into the neighborhood. If we redirect traffic into the residential, it is dangerous.

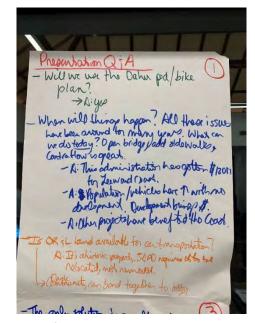


Photo of the Notes taken during Q&A Session



- Suggestion: Separate short-term versus long-term goals.
- Need more raised crosswalks by Black Rock. We also need more bright lighting and signage near crosswalks.
- What about access to the "Bridge to Nowhere"? Support for this as a pedestrian access and safety.
- Cement sidewalks needed between Nānākuli Avenue and Haleakalā Avenue.
- Bring the access road to serve DHHL Homelands in the mauka area.
- Stop closing lanes during the day, bring utilities underground, and make sidewalks for the *kupuna*.
- Bring back the boat; need a newer boat to go to Wai'anae. We need to get rid of the electric poles, these poles fell down in 2006, causing heavy traffic.
- Need a mauka road due to past disasters for safety. Poles have fallen down in the past.
- Is the mauka lane of Farrington too small?
 - Others agree that it is too narrow. This is an immediate issue.

Breakout Session (Group 2)

Question to the Group: What do you like most about living here?

- Answers:
 - o The people.
 - Farming land is cheaper.
 - Grandmother is here generational.
 - o **Family**.
 - o Retired & better quality of life
 - I'm from 'Ewa important corridor.
 - Affordability.
 - o Schools.
 - Beautiful.
 - o Cheapest fee simple.
 - Last frontier.
 - o Westside only home ever known. Family has been here for or 100 years.

Discussion of Issues and Ideas:

- Lots of large families with multiple cars.
- Development in 'Ewa /Kapolei will slow traffic out of Nānākuli /Honokai Hale.
- Piliokahi Avenue to Lualualei Naval Road. Intelligent traffic system timed lights.
- Timed ITSP 6 months to 2-year solution.
- Phase 2 with HDOT extra lane. Kapolei to Mākaha.
- Why is right lane always backed up? Contraflow is free. Buses halt the flow of traffic.



- Extend the 5th lane
- Check the Sack & Save mall issue.
- Lighting before Kahe powerplant and Black Rock Beach. Maybe solar powered lights.
- Kapolei to Black Rock there is a "choke point"
- Center median express lane/zipper lane to bypass Nānākuli.
- Offshore route ocean highway.
- Kolekole Pass.
- Issues with mauka routes Makakilo, iwi, and SHPD.
- No median issue crosswalks for pedestrians.
- Tabletop with reflective paint.
- Possibility about a bike path in 40' ROW.
- Hot air balloon rides.
- There are no pavings on some sidewalks.
- Ayoung Homestead sidewalks.
- In Mā'ili, there are drainage issues going into City streets. Whole coast flooding.
- Emergency access road from Pa'akea to Wai'anae. Needs to be opened during peak access/traffic hours.
- Extreme amount of development going in.
- Is the Wai'anae Coast Sustainable Communities Plan going to be updated?
- Pa'akea DIP lighting.
- Boulders to prevent dumping.
- Funding for emergency access and for fixing roads.
- Kolekole Pass. Develop an MOU for the City and State.
- In Dubai, they activated illuminated crosswalks.
- Emergency access no road closures to prevent no access.
- Railroad track land can be used for cars?
 - Historic preservation so it is protected.
 - o SHPD can help with this.
- Is crash data comparable to other area funding is study part of funded project?
- Traffic congestion is starting earlier. There is a heavy flow huge change since 1985. Solution is an alternative road.
- How to accomplish baby steps for community. Short-term, fast projects.
- Mauka lands can be part of solution. One-way corridors.



Breakout Session Map Comments (Group 2)

- Near Pacific Shopping Center in Nānākuli: Connect to WCEAR; MOA to connect to WCEAR.
- Along Nānākuli Coast: Phase II Leeward Bikeway (shared use path); needs to be extended to Mākaha.
- After Kahe Power Plant towards Nānākuli: "Choke Point" for traffic and needs lighting here.
- Nānākuli Bypass is needed.

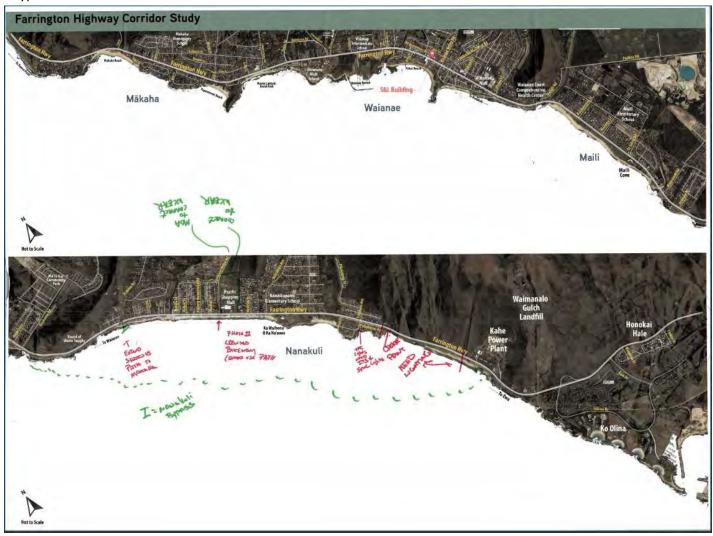


Photo of the Breakout Session Map



Written Comments

Comment sheets were provided to attendees to garner additional concerns and suggestions regarding the Farrington Highway Corridor Study. Three questions listed on the comment sheet are documented below along with attendee input.

1. Use this space to provide additional input, support or concerns.

- What is going on with the construction of the 3rd road?
- If you're concerned for safety, why did you connect a road to Longs on the 1st road in Nānākuli Ave; won't that increase more traffic on the neighborhood where hundreds of kids walk on to go to school?
- When talking with more people of Nānākuli, no matter how rude they sound, keep calm.
- Noticed that a lot have some to say and a lot of people tend to takeover/talk over each other.
- I live in Mā'ili we need access roads to Pa'akea Road in case of tsunami or hurricane.
- Long-term need to plan highway thru mauka side going towards Kunia.
- Traffic condition need to address lights, turn lanes to shopping center, homestead.
- What are some minor changes that can be implemented now to alleviate congestion along the Wai'anae Coast?
- A lot of emphasis what put on long-term goals and not short-term.
- We need turning lanes coming from Wai'anae. From Princess Kahanu to Helelua Street it is very difficult to make a left because of waiting for oncoming traffic to clear.

2. Is there other information you would like to see at future meetings?

- Long-term solutions and short-term solutions that are realistic. *Answers*
- More of the government side of all the goddamn things they've built within Honolulu, Nānākuli, basically the whole O'ahu island.
- DOT needs to be more aware of what was discussed in other suggestions in the past, because we are still trying to discuss the same kinds of problems with not going anywhere in the past 40 years.
- More info about minor alternatives to improve upon congestion that can be done within 2 years or so.
- Study results/data.
- Timing of traffic lights coming off of side streets. There are some side streets that take 5 minutes for lights to change and some take up to 10 minutes to get off side street on to Farrington Highway.

3. How did you hear about this public meeting?

- Mailing
- Another person (+3)
- Newspaper
- School Staff
- **Neighborhood Board Meeting**



Meeting Photos











Farrington Highway Corridor Study



'Aina Meetings Round 1: Wai'anae 2/20/20, Nānākuli 2/24/20, 6-8 pm



TEAM

Hawai'i Department of Transportation

- Ed Sniffen (Deputy Director)
- Marshall Ando (Administrator)
- Ken Tatsuguchi (Head Planning Engineer)
- Patrick Tom (Planning Engineer)
- Jill Tanabe (Planning Engineer)
- Pua Aiu (Planning Specialist)
- Shelly Kunishige (Public Affairs)

Consultant Team (SSFM)

- Sue LeBrun (Traffic Engineer)
- Melissa May (Planner)
- Jared Chang (Planner)
- Carlos Kelton (Planner)
- Matt Fernandez (Planner)
- Puanani Burgess (Community Engagement Specialist)
- Lelemia Irvine, Pat Uchigakiuchi, Pua Ena Burgess (KMAPP)

AGENDA

- Welcome & Team Introductions
- Discussion Kuleana & Meeting Goals
- Presentation
 - Project Overview, Goals, Planning Process and Timeline
 - Community Engagement and Opportunities for Input
 - Issues and Opportunities Identified to Date for Safety, Congestion, Resilience

Breakout sessions:

- Wai'anae Coast yesterday, today, tomorrow
- How you get around Farrington Highway
- Issues and opportunities for Farrington Highway
- De-Brief
- Closing

DISCUSSION KULEANA

You are personally responsible for working toward future solutions/aspirations by:

- > actively listening and keeping an open mind
- > making sure everyone has an opportunity to express their ideas
- > being creative and prepared to hear and try new things

It's okay to disagree as long as we are respectful of each other

MEETING GOALS

- Start a process of collaborating with the community to develop solutions for Farrington Highway. Encouraging people to participate in all 3 rounds of meetings.
- Bring everyone here up to speed on the project and what's been done to date.
- Learn about how you see and use Farrington Highway in the past, present, and future.
- Hear about issues and opportunities you encounter while traveling around the area.



PROJECT OVERVIEW

- The Hawai'i Department of Transportation (HDOT) Highways Division is conducting a study to determine the long term vision and management for Farrington Highway Corridor (Route 93).
- The study will analyze and identify short (6 months 2 years) and long (2 20 or more years) term <u>multimodal</u> solutions that address:
 - Safety
 - Congestion
 - Resilience



PLANNING PROCESS

Aina Meetings **Study Past Efforts** Meet with **DISCOVERY**: Identify **Elected Official &** Data Collection to Transportation Patterns, Neighborhood Round 1: Online Interactive (Safety, identify Agency Issues & Opportunities Boards and Behaviors, Issues, Congestion, "hotspots" Coordination July 2019-February 2020 Resilience) Stakeholders Opportunities **WE ARE HERE SOLUTIONS:** Identify & Aina Meetings **Technical Study** Neighborhood **Vet Potential Solutions** Round 2: Survey **Assess Feasibility** Generate Draft (Operations Board and Map results, of Solutions Solutions December 2019-March Coordination Assessment) discuss solutions Aina Meetings **PRIORITIES:** Prioritize Develop Solutions, Identify Short Round 3: Develop Timeline, Recommended and Long Term Projects Solutions, Phasing, Costs Solutions April 2020 Priorities, Phasing PROGRAM: Final Recommendations for Neighborhood **Priority Short and Draft Corridor Final Corridor** Agency review Board **Long Term Projects** Study Study Coordination and Implementation May-July 2020

Opportunities for Community Input*

Map

^{*} Input may also be provided anytime during the process by e-mail or phone – see website for details!

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Agency & Elected Official Outreach
- Neighborhood Board Presentations
 & Transportation Committees
- Stakeholder Meetings
- Drive/Walk Audit (2/8)
- KMAPP School Coordination & Development
- Survey and Interactive Map Development





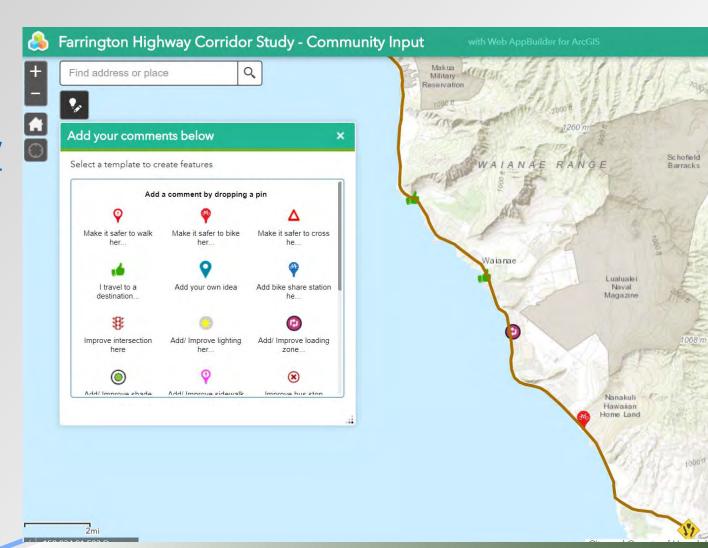
KAHU MALAMA ALALOA PATHWAYS PROGRAM (KMAPP)

- A youth education program is being piloted in partnership with UH West O'ahu, led by a team including Dr. Lelemia Irvine, Puanani Burgess, and Pua Ena Burgess.
- The program is designed to teach high school students from the Nānākuli and Wai'anae Coast how to become a Kahu Mālama Kealaloa, or Steward of Pathways.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR INPUT

- Project Website: Information,
 Mailing List, Contact Info
 - http://hidot.hawaii.gov/highways/ farringtoncorridorstudy/
- Online Interactive Map (posted on the project website)
 - Send us your input on where improvements are needed!



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- 'Āina Meetings:
 - Round 1: Meet the team, identify transportation issues and opportunities; learn how people see and use Farrington Highway
 - February 20th, Wai'anae
 - February 24th, Nānākuli
 - Round 2: Report results from survey and technical studies; identify preliminary solutions
 - March 30th, Nānākuli
 - March 31st, Wai'anae
 - Round 3: Present draft recommendations, discuss priorities and phasing.
 - April 22nd, Wai'anae
 - April 28th, Nānākuli

ALL MEETINGS ARE 6-8 PM, S&L Building in Wai'anae, Library in Nānākuli





TECHNICAL STUDIES TO DATE

- Draft Operations Assessment:
 - Traffic forecasting
 - Traffic Counts
 - Crash Analysis for intersections and segments
 - Traffic modeling and analysis
 - Signal warrant analysis
 - Bike, pedestrian and transit assessment
 - Freight assessment
 - Access point inventory and recommendations
 - Contraflow evaluation
 - Transportation Demand Management (TDM)/trip reduction recommendations
- Second Access Report:
 - Review of Prior & Ongoing Efforts



ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES: SAFETY

RESEARCH & TECHNICAL STUDIES

- Crash Study with data from HDOT 2013-2016. 694 total crashes
- Notable crashes: 55% are rear end (35%), broadside, cross median, angle-opposite direction
- Overall % Severity, least to worst: no-injury/C/B/A/K 35/36/24/3/2%
- 64 ped crashes, 5 no-injury, 48 Injury, 11 fatal (9 of those at night)



ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES: SAFETY

WHAT WE'VE HEARD FROM THE COMMUNITY:

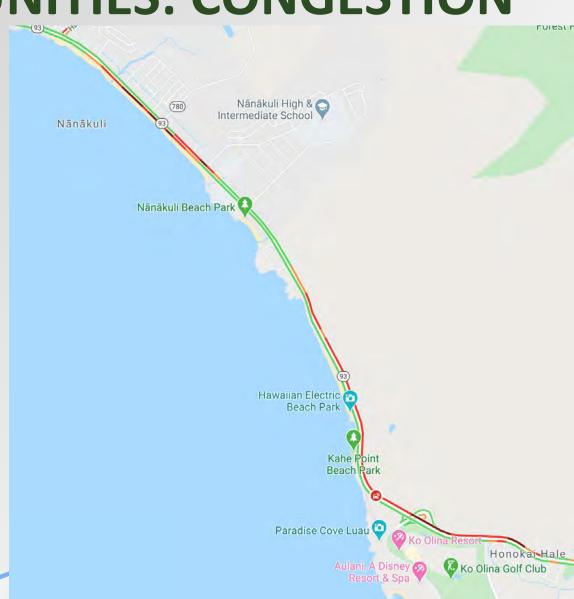
- Speeding is a big safety concern:
 - Add speed monitors in some areas to slow people down
 - Make lanes narrower
 - Islands/medians/bump-outs to calm traffic
 - More enforcement needed
- Support for more raised crosswalks (especially in Maili); need more signage/lights to warn drivers about them
- Need better lighting in some stretches and at crosswalks
- Add/improve sidewalks, especially around schools and bus stops
- Add/improve bike lanes lots of people bike



ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES: CONGESTION

RESEARCH & TECHNICAL STUDIES

- Collected 6-12 hour turn movement counts at 37 intersections and 24-hour tube counts at 3 locations
- Modeling/analysis of existing and future conditions. Intersections expected to have the most delays in 2040 without improvements: Haleakala Avenue and Lualualei Naval Road
- Possible improvements: extension of 5th lane/contraflow, addition of turn lanes, computerized ITS traffic signal system



ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES: CONGESTION

WHAT WE'VE HEARD FROM THE COMMUNITY

- Congestion is extremely heavy in AM and PM especially PM
- People are always late, have to plan travel far ahead
- Nānākuli is biggest problem area
- Signal timing needs to be coordinated to help with congestion and letting cars turn off side streets
- Support for expanded contraflow/5th lane
- Add or expand center turn lanes where possible
- Bus pullouts help so they don't have to stop in the lane
- Need bypass to separate commuters from local traffic
- Difficulties turning onto Farrington from side streets (signal timing, pedestrians crossing, etc.)
- New development needs to consider and provide solutions for congestion.



ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES: RESILIENCE

RESEARCH & TECHNICAL STUDIES

- Review of planning studies for sea level rise and emergency evacuations
- Review of second access studies done in the last ~60 years. None have been implemented due to factors including cost, opposition, land ownership, archaeology/historic concerns, environmental concerns



AREAS VULNERABLE TO:

- Seasonal beach erosion
- Wave overtopping
- Flooding (wetland)
- Sand deposits on Farrington Highway
- Rainfall flooding

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES: RESILIENCE

WHAT WE'VE HEARD FROM THE COMMUNITY

- Strong opinions around second access:
 - Pro: Provide emergency access, alleviate traffic congestion.
 - Con: Concern about impact of bypassed traffic on neighborhoods/school zones, encouraging more development.
- WCEAR has segments that don't connect, 24hr access needed.
- Concern about sand/waves washing up on the highway.
- Flooding/drainage problems impede access and create safety issues.
- Need to understand what development is planned, and update the Wai'anae Sustainable Communities Plan.





WAI'ANAE COAST YESTERDAY, TODAY, **TOMORROW**

What are your memories of your community and the highway?

Farrington Highway Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow

Late 1800's-1900's

Farrington Highway was narrow and unpaved. During the plantation era, a railroad track ran along the Waianae Coast around Kaena Point, to Mokuleia and Waialua.

1970's

Farrington Highway was paved, increasing access and shortening commute times to Honolulu.

How has the highway and community changed over time?

What role does the highway play in your daily life?



1982

A portion of the highway was closed due to a landslide caused by Hurricane Iwa, highlighting the need for emergency access.

The Waianae Coast Emergency Access Road was completed. < This road connects existing roads mauka of the highway to provide an alternate way in and out of Waianae.

The highway is the Westside's primary connection to Honolulu, and beyond. Kapolei has become a regional destination for the Westside, shortening many trips. Safety concerns for motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists exist on the highway due to high-speed car and truck traffic through

How can the highway best serve your community in the future?

Future

Rail will provide a new connection from the Westside into Honolulu and places between. Little new development is expected west of Kapolei, however traffic congestion will

remain a concern. Providing convenient and reliable access to transit, walking, and biking will improve congestion and safety. Sea level rise and natural disasters will increase with climate change.





 What is the Wai'anae Coast to you?

 Think about your memories, how you experience it today, and how you see it into the future.

HOW DO YOU USE FARRINGTON HIGHWAY?

Where do you go and how?

WHAT ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES DO YOU SEE?

 What issues and/or opportunities do you encounter as you move around the area?

DE-BRIEF

- Reporting Back
- Did we meet our meeting goals?

MAHALO

Contact us with questions or comments:

SSFM International

Contact: Melissa May

Phone: 808-628-5861

Email: mmay@ssfm.com

Project Website:

See you at the Next Meetings!



http://hidot.hawaii.gov/highways/farringtoncorridorstudy/