

# **Dowsett Highlands Relief Sewer Project – C&C Dept of Environmental Services Pali Highway Improvement Projects – State of Hawaii – DOT Highways**

## **General Information Sheet June 2017**

*This document is intended to provide a summary of improvements happening along Pali Highway starting in the third quarter (July-September) of 2017. These projects—the City and County of Honolulu’s Dowsett Highlands Relief Sewer, the State’s Pali Highway – Street Lighting from Vineyard Boulevard to Kamehameha Highway and Resurfacing from Waokanaka Street to Kamehameha Highway, and the State’s 2nd Pali Highway project: Pali Highway Resurfacing – Vineyard Boulevard to Waokanaka Street—represent a unique collaboration between two government agencies.*

*Regular communication on public facilities is critical for good community relations. Primarily, expected concerns from the community are traffic, noise, and access to driveways and side streets. In order to mitigate these concerns and impact on the community, the City and the State will make updates, as appropriate, through websites, e-newsletters, and public engagement tools (e.g., Public Informational Meetings, news releases, public notices, social media, PSAs, Neighborhood Board meetings, mailings to nearby residences, printed materials, videos, etc.).*

### **Collaboration: City & County of Honolulu, Hawaii Department of Transportation (State)**

The City and County of Honolulu (City) and the Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) are working in collaboration on several improvement projects along Pali Highway beginning in the second half of 2017 and the first half of 2018. In an effort to minimize impact on local communities and commuters who depend on Pali Highway, the City and HDOT are working together in scheduling, planning and coordinating these projects.

A prime example of this collaboration is the work zone and traffic lane modifications HDOT will install for its LED lighting system project that will also be used by the City for its sewer main project. The work zones and traffic lane modifications will allow HDOT to maintain all three Honolulu-bound lanes in the work area during peak travel hours for the duration of the work in Nuuanu Valley.

The first project, scheduled for the 3rd quarter of 2017, is HDOT's Pali Highway – Street Lighting from Vineyard Boulevard to Kamehameha Highway and Resurfacing from Waokanaka Street to Kamehameha Highway. This project involves replacement of the lighting system from Vineyard Boulevard to Kamehameha Highway and resurfacing from Waokanaka Street to Kamehameha Highway.

The City, as part of its efforts to upgrade the sewer system, will be working on a significant upgrade in Nuuanu Valley. Under the Consent Decree agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the City created the Dowsett Highlands Relief Sewer project. This project will install a new sewer main along Dowsett Avenue, Pali Highway, and Nuuanu Avenue to relieve two under-capacity sewer mains: the Waolani Stream sewer main and the Nuuanu Stream sewer main.

After the sewer main project has been completed, HDOT is planning another resurfacing project from Vineyard Boulevard to Waokanaka Street. When the Pali Highway Resurfacing – Vineyard

Boulevard to Waokanaka Street project is completed, motorists will be able to use an improved corridor that will be safer with a smooth riding surface.

Temporary inconveniences and disruptions to current daily usage should be expected due to the diversity and magnitude of the proposed improvements. The City and State are working together to provide helpful, coordinated updates on the projects. Our plan to keep residents, institutions, businesses, neighborhood boards, elected officials, government agencies and commuters informed about traffic management plans and communication efforts is being developed and will be shared in public forums in the near future.

### **Background: Lighting and Repaving (HDOT)**

HDOT will replace the lighting system between Vineyard Boulevard and Kamehameha Highway. Work will include replacing all light poles, conduits and wiring and installing LED lighting fixtures. Construction of the lighting system is scheduled to begin in Fall 2017 and is slated for completion in Summer 2019. The first phase of the lighting system work will be the area between Nuuanu Avenue and Country Club Road. The work area will be partially within the Honolulu-bound right lane, which will be closed to traffic for much of the duration of the construction for all three projects. In order to maintain the current number of lanes (3), HDOT will create a lane by reducing the median between Country Club Road and Coelho Way. During rush hour, there will be three lanes open. During periods of less heavy traffic, two lanes will be open. Long-term lane closures in the Kailua-bound direction are not anticipated for this project.

After the new lighting system is completed in this area, the sewer main work will start in order to use the lane configurations set up by HDOT to the best advantage. Concurrent to the sewer main work, HDOT will resurface the Pali Highway between Waokanaka Street and Kamehameha Highway.

Following the relief sewer project HDOT will resurface Pali Highway from Vineyard Boulevard to Waokanaka Street. This project is tentatively scheduled to start in the summer 2019 and has an estimated completion date of late 2020. It will be the final phase of this series of joint improvements.

### **Background: Sewer Main Infrastructure (City)**

The City is constructing the Dowsett Highlands Relief Sewer project to comply with the 2010 Consent Decree agreement between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of Hawaii, Department of Health. The Consent Decree states that the project will be constructed by June 30, 2020.

The existing sewer mains serving Nuuanu valley are located within private property, along the existing Waolani and Nuuanu streams, making repairs and maintenance difficult. New sewer mains will be installed to connect to these existing sewers and divert flows to the new Dowsett sewer main. The project will increase the sewer flow capacity and minimize sanitary sewer overflows. The Dowsett sewer main will be installed within existing City and State Rights-Of-Way, along Pali Highway, Dowsett Avenue, and Nuuanu Avenue, allowing ease of access for regular routine maintenance and repairs. The existing sewer mains along the streams will no longer be the main sewer conduits, but rather serve as local lines to collect sewage from the homes nearest the streams.

Along the Pali Highway corridor, the Dowsett sewer main will lie approximately 20 feet below the ground surface. Because the sewer main in this corridor will be constructed by drilling horizontally underground with a boring machine, where practical, long open-cut trenches won't be needed. For this trenchless installation, the only surface disturbance will be for entrance and exit pits up to 12 feet in diameter, dug to accommodate the work of the boring machine.

Along Dowsett Avenue and Nuuanu Avenue, traditional open-cut trenches may be utilized to place the new sewer main. The use of traditional open-cut trenches in these areas is mainly due to unforeseen geotechnical conditions. The Dowsett Highlands Relief Sewer will ultimately connect to the Kalihi sewer tunnel at School Street, where the flow will continue on to the Sand Island Wastewater Treatment Plant.

In cooperation with HDOT, the City will utilize the work zones and traffic lane modifications set up by HDOT for its LED lighting system project to mitigate traffic impacts on the community as the two agencies work to make necessary improvements to their systems.