



State DOT Director's Message Oahu Highways Priority Projects

April 23, 2013

Aloha,

I'd like to share with you the state Department of Transportation's vision and plans for improving Oahu's aging infrastructure. When he was elected Governor, Neil Abercrombie expressed his desire to fix our state's major arteries and help alleviate traffic. Working together, we have come up with this plan. As you know, many of our state roadways are in need of repair, showing signs of wear like potholes and patchwork from past emergency repairs. Over the years and for numerous reasons, highway maintenance funding was deferred, leaving our roads in the condition they're in now. There is much work that needs to be done and, of course, funding is limited, but we are working on some major projects now and have several others in the pipeline for the near future.

The end goal is to improve our quality of life. The good news is that badly needed road repairs and rehabilitation are happening and will continue in the next few years. The bad news is that because we are an island state; space is so limited, traffic congestion already heavy, and alternate routes few, there will be traffic disruptions and delays for all of us. Unfortunately, there is no good time to do this work and yet it must be done. We want to share this information with you so that you know what's going on and why. I encourage you to share this information with your family and friends. We'll all be facing some frustrations on the roads ahead, and we thank you for your continued patience and understanding.

Our priority projects for Oahu are:

- **H-1 Freeway PM Contraflow Project** – This \$82 million project is rebuilding badly deteriorated parts of the concrete viaducts in the Pearl City area and will extend to repairs in the Waimalu area. Concrete sections are demolished and new fast-drying cement is poured overnight and on Sundays. Work also includes the widening of the freeway westbound between the Pearl City exit and the Waipahu exit to add an auxiliary lane and will later include restriping between the Aiea Pedestrian Overpass to the Pearl City exit to add an additional westbound auxiliary lane. The final piece of this project will be the installation of the westbound contraflow lane which will help to alleviate afternoon rush-hour traffic. This project is anticipated to be completed in Fall of 2014.
- **H-1 Freeway Airport Viaduct Improvements, Valkenburgh Street to Middle Street Project** – This \$26 million project is to complete the needed concrete deck repairs with latex modified concrete. The project is anticipated to start Summer 2013.
- **H-1 Freeway Rehabilitation Project – Middle Street to Vicinity of Ward Avenue** – At a cost of approximately \$40 million, this project will address badly deteriorating sections of the H-1 Freeway in town, in both directions. It will be mostly night work and will include shutting down sections of the freeway at night. Although this will be an inconvenience, it is



anticipated to reduce the project work duration by six months. Once the rehabilitation is completed the freeway will be restriped to add fourth lanes in both directions. This will extend the recently restriped portion of the H-1, from the Punahou onramp to the vicinity of Pali Highway, an additional three miles to Middle Street. The project is expected to begin in Summer of 2013 and be completed in one year.

- **Vineyard Boulevard Resurfacing, Palama Street to H-1 On and Off Ramp** – This resurfacing project will address the roadway areas as well as the sidewalks, bus pads and utility adjustments, pavement markings, striping and landscaping at an approximate cost of \$8 million. Project is expected to begin Summer 2013.
- **Pali Highway Resurfacing** – This \$14 million project will address Pali Highway's deteriorating pavement conditions. A short-term pavement preservation resurfacing has already been done in the worst areas to make the highway more drivable while we prepare for this major resurfacing project. This project is scheduled to go out to bid in Spring of 2014 with work anticipated to start in the Summer. During this time, drivers are urged to use either Likelike Highway or the H-3 Freeway as there will be daily lane closures from 8:30 a.m. until 3 p.m.
- **Kalanianole Highway Resurfacing – West Hind Drive to the vicinity of Hanauma Bay Road** – At an approximate cost of \$14 million, this project is anticipated to go out to bid in the Fall of 2013 with construction starting at the beginning of 2014.
- **Kamehameha Highway Resurfacing – Waihau to Ka Uka Blvd** – This project is expected to cost approximately \$13 million and is another area that is in need of major road repairs. At this time, we expect to go out to bid in fall of 2013 with work to begin in the beginning of 2014.

Thank you for taking the time to read this message and I hope that it is helpful for you. Please note that because these projects are currently being planned and designed, anticipated work dates are subject to change. We also have many other projects happening at all times that impact traffic. For roadwork information, please check our website at hidot.hawaii.gov and click on "Roadwork." For live, real-time traffic information on Oahu's major arteries please visit our Goakamai.org website.

Mahalo,

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Director
State Department of Transportation