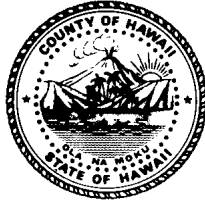


Harry Kim  
Mayor



Dixie Kaetsu  
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow  
Deputy Managing Director

## COUNTY OF HAWAII

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 14, 2008

Contact : 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

### Proposed Ordinances for the Māmalahoa Bypass before the Hawai`i County Council

The County of Hawai`i administration will present two planning and four traffic ordinances to amend the Hawai`i County Code to the Hawai`i County Council Committees on Wednesday, February 20, 2008, at the Sheraton Keauhou Resort & Spa.

The Planning Committee will hear two proposed County ordinances to allow the northern portion of the Māmalahoa Highway Bypass to open prior to the completion of the project. The Hawai`i County Planning Commission last month recommended amending the ordinances to allow the use of Haleki`i Street in Kealakekua, in conjunction with the opening of the Māmalahoa Bypass in summer 2008.

Amending these County ordinances is necessary to allow Haleki`i Street to be used as a mauka-makai connector for the northern portion of the bypass, prior to the completion of the 5.4 mile bypass which terminates at Nāpō`opo`o Junction.

Before the Public Works and Intergovernmental Relations Committee are four amendments to the traffic code:

- To restrict the use of the bypass to one-way travel for southbound traffic between the hours of 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. weekdays only, except holidays.
- Reduce the speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph from Honalo Junction to Sandy's Drive Inn in Kainaliu town.
- Install stop signs on Ali`i Drive at Lunapule and Royal Poinciana.
- Install stop signs on Ali`i Highway and Kaleiopapa.

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Stop signs are short-term safety measures. Installation would take six to eight months to complete. Replacing these stop signs with traffic signals is expected to take between three to five years to complete.

The Māmalahoa Highway Bypass is a north-south, two-lane roadway under construction in Kona midway between the shoreline and Māmalahoa Highway. It is intended to give motorists an alternate route between North and South Kona.

The bypass starts at the end of Ali`i Highway in Keauhou and will run approximately 5.4 miles to the Nāpō`opo`o Junction in South Kona.

The northern portion of the Māmalahoa bypass starts at the end of Ali`i Highway and runs approximately three miles to the bottom of Haleki`i Street in Kealakekua's Kona Scenic subdivision.

For meeting copy of the proposed ordinances, click on <http://co.hawaii.hi.us/council/council.htm> and scroll to the Planning or Public Works and Intergovernmental Relations Committees or, contact the Hawai`i County Council at 961-8001.

For fact sheet and frequently asked questions about the Māmalahoa bypass click on <http://co.hawaii.hi.us/info/projects.htm>