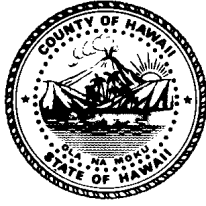


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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 24, 2008

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Work resumes on the Palani Road improvements

Contractors will resume work on the Palani Road detour beginning Monday, September 29, now that the transfer of phone lines to the new utility poles is completed.

Construction work on improvements to the intersections of Palani Road and Kealaka`a and Palihilo streets has been on hold since March while redesign work on a detour road was completed, and three utility poles were relocated.

Under the redesign plan, traffic will be temporarily diverted from Palani Road through a short section of the new Kealaka`a extension. It will continue another 800 feet makai before merging back on to the existing Palani Road.

The detour road will allow construction for a new traffic signal at the intersection of Palani Road at Palihilo Street (one of two entrances into Lili`uokalani Subdivision) and realigning Kealaka`a at Palani Road.

These improvements will alter the flow of traffic at the current intersection of Palani Road and Kealaka`a. Presently motorists using Kealaka`a can turn right or left onto Palani Road, and motorists heading mauka on Palani Road can turn left onto Kealaka`a. When the extension is completed, only motorists heading makai on Palani Road can make right turns at this intersection.

The project, which began in June 2007, was originally projected to be completed in 18 months. A new completion date in 2009 has not been determined. The redesign was estimated to cost \$100,000 and take 90 days to complete.

The entire project is estimated to exceed \$6 million, and 80% is funded by the Federal Highways Administration (FHWA). Hawaii taxpayers will pay 20% of the total cost. The delay does not affect the Federal funding.

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Planned Detour on Palani Road

