Hawai'i Community Development Authority February 2023

Community Connection



On the calendar

March 1

The next HCDA Board meetings will be held, after the public hearing.

For more information on the public hearings, board meetings or about HCDA visit <u>dbedt.</u> hawaii.gov/hcda.

Know someone?

If you want to include an event, know an individual or a business in Kaka'ako, Kalaeloa or He'eia that we could feature, or just want more Community Connection, let us know by emailing us at: dbedt.hcda.contact@hawaii.gov.

Every time the wind blows

Power outages in Kalaeloa leave the community in the dark

"I think it was high wind or we think it was rain," is what Bev Brennan was told after her business lost possibly thousands of dollars due to a power outage, the first weekend of February.

The unusual high winds damaged roofs, brought down trees and utility poles, and caused several power outages across the state.

But that is not the case in Kalaeloa, where the eighty-plus year-old electrical system is so unreliable, "The power goes out every time a big wind blows," as Linda Painter, co-owner of the Barbers Point Bowling Center, put it.

"We just sit in the dark and turn people away," said Brennan. "Having been a tenant here with the bowling center for the past twelve



Kalaeloa power outage events

years, this is not unusual. If you get heavy rains and heavy winds, I would take Vegas odds on it that you're going to lose power."

The reliability of the archaic electrical grid and the substations that power the grid have been a great concern for everyone in the area. Tamura's Market closed their location in

Continued on page 2

Honolulu Vision Zero The City's vision for safer roadways

"There has been roughly one traffic death every week for the last ten years," said Renee Espiau, Complete Streets Administrator, in a presentation to the staff at HCDA in January. "If we want to see change, we can't approach traffic safety the same way."

The top three causes of fatal and serious injury traffic accidents are when the driver is not paying attention, driving under the influence, or speeding. Nearly one third of fatal crashes are caused by excessive speed. Even small increases in speed greatly increase the risk of death.

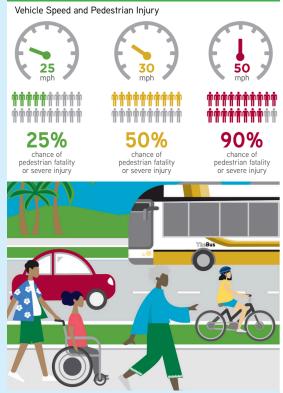
The seriousness of these statistics shook us on February 15, when two teenaged girls were struck in a hit-and-run collision, killing a 16-year-old student and hospitalizing the second girl, that were crossing in a crosswalk on Kapiolani Boulevard near Kamakee Street. The police say the pickup truck that hit the girls was speeding through a red light.

The intersection of Kapiolani Boulevard and Kamakee Street had already been selected for the Red-Light Safety Camera Pilot program by the State Department of Transportation. To learn more about this program visit <u>https://hidot.hawaii.gov/highways/red-light-safety-program</u>.

The City and County of Honolulu is dedicated to ending traffic deaths on Oahu's streets, and established the Honolulu Vision Zero Action Plan, a multifaceted strategy to stop traffic fatalities and severe injuries on the road, while increasing safe, healthy, and equitable transportation options.

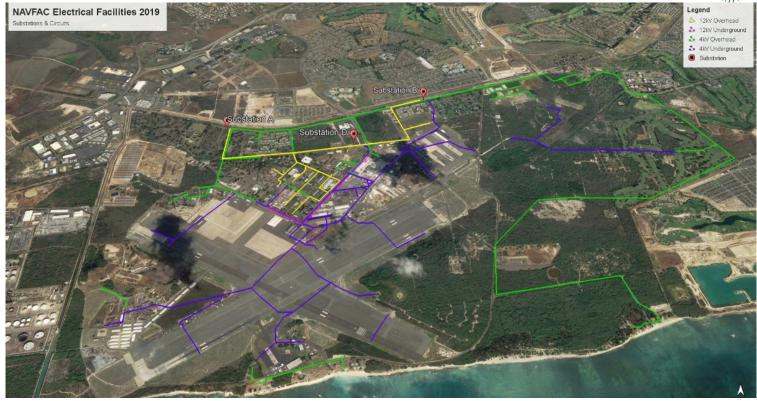
Vision Zero encourages people to sign up for their mailing list for project updates at <u>www.honolulu.gov/completestreets</u> and/or share their experiences and thoughts on traffic safety here: <u>https://form.jotform.com/222936440790156</u>.

Our vision is to reduce serious traffic injuries and fatalities on Oahu streets to zero. - Vision Zero



Images courtesy of the City and County of Honolulu





Power out page 1

Kalaeloa because of the unreliable electricity, which caused them loses in perishable goods "well into six figures," a Tamura's Market manager told the Star-Advertiser.

In 2018, HCDA commissioned Guernsey who analyzed the Kalaeloa power outage events dating back to 2014. Most of the outages occurred in downtown, north of the airport runway cross, and up to Franklin D. Roosevelt Ave. These areas have a higher density of users. Overhead lines are more exposed to wildlife and vegetation related outages, as well as vehicle impacts, and vandalism.

The Guernsey study also found the Navy owned 4kV (kilovolt) overhead power lines were considered to be near the end of their useful life and it was suggested to plan for decommissioning them immediately. The Navy 12kV overhead

Kalaeloa 4kV overhead power lines in green, and 12kV overhead power lines in yellow. The condition of pink and purple underground lines is unknown.

power lines were in reasonable condition, providing service to the Kalaeloa airport and various key account loads.

Limiting growth and redevelopment in many areas of Kalaeloa, new users are not able to hook up to the electrical system due to its limited capacity.

HCDA requested \$12.125 million in capital improvement funds to upgrade the Saratoga Avenue electrical and communications infrastructure in Kalaeloa, from the Hawaii State Legislature again this year. This is part of a phased approach, in 2021 HCDA completed the Kalaeloa Enterprise Energy Corridor project. The Saratoga improvements would connect to the Enterprise Energy Corridor along Saratoga Avenue to Hornet, bringing reliable more resilient underground power and communications, that would not be affected by the wind and rain, to the downtown Kalaeloa business area.

Hawaiian salutations and farewells in honor of Hawaiian language month

Aloha kākou /Aloha mai kākou Greetings to three or more of us Aloha Kakahiaka Good morning Aloha 'Auinalā Good afternoon Aloha Ahiahi Good evening Ho'omaika'i! Congratulations! E komo mai!/ E kipa mai! Come inside!/Come visit! E hele hou mai nō! Come again! Mahalo/Mahalo nui/Mahalo a nui loa Thanks/ Much thanks/Thanks very much A hui hou kāua/kākou Until we two/three or more meet again Ke Akua puū God be with you Me ka 'oia'i'o Sincerely/Truly Me ke aloha pumehana With warm regards Me ka mahalo nui With much gratitude Me ka ha'aha'a With humility Me ka hau'oli With happiness/joy E mālama pono! Take good care! I lā maika'i iā 'oe You (1 person) have a nice day! I hopenapule maika'i! Have a nice weekend!

The Community Connection is published by the Hawaii Community Development Authority Communications Department 547 Queen St., Honolulu, HI 96813. Phone: (808) 594-0300 Email: <u>dbedt.hcda.contact@hawaii.gov</u> Web: <u>https://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda</u>.