

MILLIONS IN FEDERAL STIMULUS FUNDS FOR HAWAII TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

The State of Hawai'i, together with the four counties, will receive \$246 million in federal stimulus funds to improve transportation infrastructure statewide.

The state estimates the federally funded transportation projects will generate approximately 3,170 jobs statewide in the construction industry and other related sectors. The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism estimates that for every million dollars in stimulus money invested, 12.9 jobs will be created or preserved.

The federal stimulus funds will further support Hawai'i's efforts to modernize the state's infrastructure, including the Airports Modernization Plan launched in 2005 and the Highways Modernization Plan introduced this January. The federal funds will also augment the \$1.8 billion capital improvement project (CIP) plan unveiled by Governor Lingle in December 2008, whose goal is to start more than 1,500 construction projects within the next 18 months.

"I anticipate a stabilization for our work force and greater economic health for Maui County as a result of this statewide stimulus package. It will be important to stay vigilant in evaluating the focus of these funds to maintain and create jobs," said Sen. English.

Federal funds made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) allocated for Maui County include:

- \$6,000,000 - Reconstruction and improvements of Market Street from Kahawai Street to Makuhau Road.
- \$7,000,000 - Resurfacing areas of Pi'ilani Highway and Hana Highway.
- \$2,000,000 - Federal Transit Administration funding to improve public bus transit systems.
- \$18,500,000 - Used to install Explosive Detection Systems (EDS) at Kahului Airport.

The EDS projects at Kahului Airport and at the Overseas Terminal at Honolulu International Airport will relocate the security equipment from the ticket lobbies to behind the ticket counters, resulting in more spacious lobbies for the passengers. The equipment will be integrated into the outgoing baggage conveyor system, which will cut down on the time it takes passengers to check in baggage. Also, because TSA staff will no longer need to monitor the EDS, they can be redeployed to the passenger check points.

The Kahului project began in May 2008 and is scheduled to be completed in July 2010. Construction of the Honolulu EDS project will begin late summer and be completed in May 2011.

A MESSAGE FROM KALANI

Spring arrives with great fanfare in the 6th District. One of my favorite annual events is our own Ha'iku Ho'olaulea & Flower Festival on the grounds of the Ha'iku Community Center and The Ha'iku Elementary School. As a plant person, I cannot wait to see what gardens have been producing through the year and gather helpful gardening tips from the many experts within our community. This festival is the quintessential family celebration of laughter, neighbors, great food and song. In these months of Senate hearings and budget

reductions, it brings me great pleasure to come home to my district, my extended family, and appreciate the many different ways a family grows.

This winter we have all watched events in our nation's economic infrastructure crumble before our eyes. Recovery will not come in the form of funds and new jobs alone. While the news in these times may rattle our confidence, there is in fact, no better time for you, the individual to have an effect. Please stay informed and involved in this changing tide of possibilities.

J. Kalani English

HAWAI'I'S CLEAN ENERGY INITIATIVE BACK IN POWER

Maui County and residents are closer to realizing the energy conservation ideals discussed and projected for years, that reduce fossil fuel emissions while expanding non-tourism dependent businesses and jobs.

Recently, the Obama Administration granted \$15,068,200 in federal stimulus money for energy efficiency and conservation projects in Hawai'i. In addition to state infrastructure improvements that reduce energy waste and emissions, these federal monies will directly affect individuals taking more personal responsibility in their conservation efforts. Programs may soon be available for home weatherization assistance, energy audits, improved building codes and inspections as well as financial incentives that make the costs of these residential and commercial building upgrades.

Hawaiian Electric Co. (HECO) has announced a plan to buy wind energy from both Lana'i and Moloka'i. **First Wind**, co-owner of the Kaheawa Wind Farm on Maui, plans to generate 200 megawatts of wind energy on Moloka'i.

This collaboration, titled **Big Wind**, awaits approval by the State Public Utilities Commission and it will support HECO's commitment to the State to increase its renewable energy sources statewide to 1,100 megawatts by 2030.

"The industry of energy is becoming a positive growth in our local economy rather than the deficit it has been associated with in the past," said Senator English.

A 6TH DISTRICT FAVORITE GATHERING



Sen. English presents The Certificate of Participation to Ha'iku School students who successfully completed The Haiku Living Legacy Project history contest.

Despite a heavily scheduled weekend, heavy weather and traffic, Senator English did not miss this annual event that draws out the light hearts, camaraderie and celebration of the harvest that is inherent to the people of his district.

"The Ha'iku Ho'olaulea & Flower Festival displays the abundance, enterprise and integrity that reaffirms Maui County's potential for food security, sustainability, neighborly rapport," said Senator English. "Not only is there plenty, but the quality of the produce, flowers and commercial products are high quality and competitive in any market." He adds, "It is my hope to see these locally produced goods dominate over imports in our local markets."

As tribute to the evolution of this event that has grown from a school fundraising bazaar, Senator English took part in the dedication of the Ha'iku Living Legacy Project's mini museum located in the Ha'iku School Library. This learning center provides Ha'iku history displays, Hawaiian books, and resources that tell of the rich cultural heritage of a hard working community.

Senator English presented a plaque made from a recently harvested Koa tree in Ha'iku, donated by Cynthia and Terry Quizenberry. The beautifully designed plaque honors Louis Baldovi, author of **Holoholo To When I Wuz**, and was accepted by Valarie Baldova and family.



Sen. English and Maui District Complex Area Superintendent, Bruce Anderson with Ha'iku School Student awards recipients.

THE HA'IKU HO'OLAULEA & FLOWER FESTIVAL

Joining the presentation were Ha'iku School Principal, Bernice Takahata, Complex Area Superintendent, Bruce Anderson; Board of Education Member, Mary Cochran; Graphic designer, Geoff Moore; Supporters of the Haiku Living Legacy Project, Cynthia and Terry Quizenberry.

Emcee and former official of the The Ha'iku Ho'olaulea & Flower Festival, Tim Wolfe, treated the festival participants to an entertaining schedule of music includ-

ing: Pacific Pulse, BrownChickenBrown-Cow String Band, Dr. Nat and Rio Ritmo, Sundance, and Marty Dread. Additional entertainment included: Maui Dance Council and their "Chance to Dance" programs, and the ukulele and hula students of Lehua Gibson' halau, both funded by the fundraiser.

Local grinds, and the smell of open pit barbeque of chicken, beef, and taro burgers kept everyone in line and in anticipation. The bake sale and silent auction were a huge hit. Senator English naturally went home with heaping bags of produce from the Locally Grown Farmer's Market.



Sen. English and Ha'iku's Farmer's Market Chairperson, Robin Imonti



Sen. English and Ha'iku resident Charles Garrison, seek shelter from a brief rain squall in the Farmers Market.

(Below) Sen. English samples fresh smelling soaps with Steven and Makana Hodges of Makana O Maui Handcrafted Soaps.

<http://www.makanaomaui.com>



Festival Emcee Tim Wolfe, Lahela Aiwohi and Sen. English enjoying the crowd and the feasting of the Ha'iku Ho'olaulea & Flower Festival. For more information: <http://www.haikulivinglegacy.com/>





HAWAIIAN CAUCUS DAY AT THE STATE CAPITOL SHOWCASES HAWAIIAN CULTURE

Sen. J. Kalani English and his committee clerk, Sharon Lum Ho pound poi. A Taro Festival was hosted by the Legislative Hawaiian Caucus, KAHEA, and Na Kahu o Haloa on the ground floor rotunda of the State Capitol on March 24, 2009.

Hundreds arrived to watch taro farmers from throughout the State participate in the largest unified gathering of Ku'i Kalo to celebrate Hawai'i's living taro traditions.



*Maui Beauty Pageant Winners:
(left to right)*

*Miss Haleakala, Malia Avila;
Miss Ulalena, Marissa Petsas;
Miss Valley Isle, Ashley Jardine;
Senator J. Kalani English;
Miss Silversword, Natasha Thorell;
Miss Lokelani, Erika Daniels;
and Miss Maui, Cierra Rauch*



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