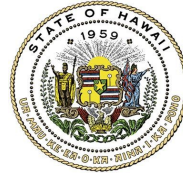


# Representative

July 1, 2014

## Gene Ward

Minority Leader Emeritus and Vice-Chair  
Econ. Develop. & Business Committee.



# HIGHWAY ALERT #3

District 17 • Hawai'i Kai-Ka Iwi Coast-Kalama Valley

[www.facebook.com/repward](http://www.facebook.com/repward) • [gene-ward.com](http://gene-ward.com) • 586-6420 • [repward@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:repward@capitol.hawaii.gov)

## Repaving Start Date Revised!



After putting the project's June 23rd start date on hold, the Director of Transportation announced in a briefing to East Honolulu elected officials

the Kalaniana'ole Hwy repaving project will officially begin Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

But don't panic, lane closures for the first week should be minimal with mostly barricades put in place and storm drains blocked as the major signs of the construction project is beginning.

During the 2nd week, however, the contractor, Grace Pacific, announced in the same meeting that **serious lane closures will begin on Tuesday, July 8th** and the community should be prepared for delays. **The contractor will work from West Hind Drive and proceed east bound** until reaching Hanauma Bay by Feb. 2014.

If the contractor fails to finish on time, there are penalties, but **unfortunately there are no economic incentives for the contractor to finish earlier.**

The best way the contract could be sped up is by **night construction.** The DOT responded to this suggestion with the following 3 points:

- A bird sanctuary exists in Paiko Lagoon and would not likely allow bright lights at night and require an environmental assessment which would likely not come out positive;
- DOT's assessment of residents living on or near the highway would not tolerate the noise levels of night construction, and mostly those off the highway would want night construction; and
- The State's contract with Grace Pacific has been signed and locked in for day-construction only and could be a complicated legal matter to change.

I am not yet fully convinced that residents living along the highway would not agree to a couple of months of noise in order to cut the repaving time in half, but this needs to be researched.

It was also mentioned in the briefing that **30% of the highway is so bad that a full 12 inches of asphalt and earth will be replaced**, whereas normally it only requires just 4 inches of asphalt to last 15 years. (BTW Lunalilo Home Rd was repaved with only 1 1/2 inches of new asphalt.) Lastly, the asphalt debris will be stockpiled at the Makakilo quarry-not in Hawaii Kai.

### RECAP/SUMMARY:

**Contract start date:** July 1, 2014

**Lanes closures:** modest through July 7 and then **full-on Tuesday, July 8th** with 2 lanes open in both directions 9 am to 3 pm.

**Light synchronization:** will continue traffic flow "as is" by using a new micro-wave technology.

**Complaints—Call the DOT Hot Line: 587-2160** or

**Sign Up for DOT Announcements:**

[dotpao@hawaii.gov](mailto:dotpao@hawaii.gov) and asked to be placed on the "Kalaniana'ole Hwy Resurfacing Project Updates" list.

**Repaving of 4.2 miles Contractor: Grace Pacific**

**Contract Finish Date:** February 2015 (with just 5 hours per day of actual repaving work.

**"The test of the pudding is in the tasting"** so let's see if **all that has been said will be done.** In the meantime my office will continue to liaise with the DOT and send you Traffic Alerts and dates for community briefings.

Aloha!

Rep. Gene Ward

Ps My office number remains 586-6420 and my cell phone is 781-9931.