

Representative Gene Ward

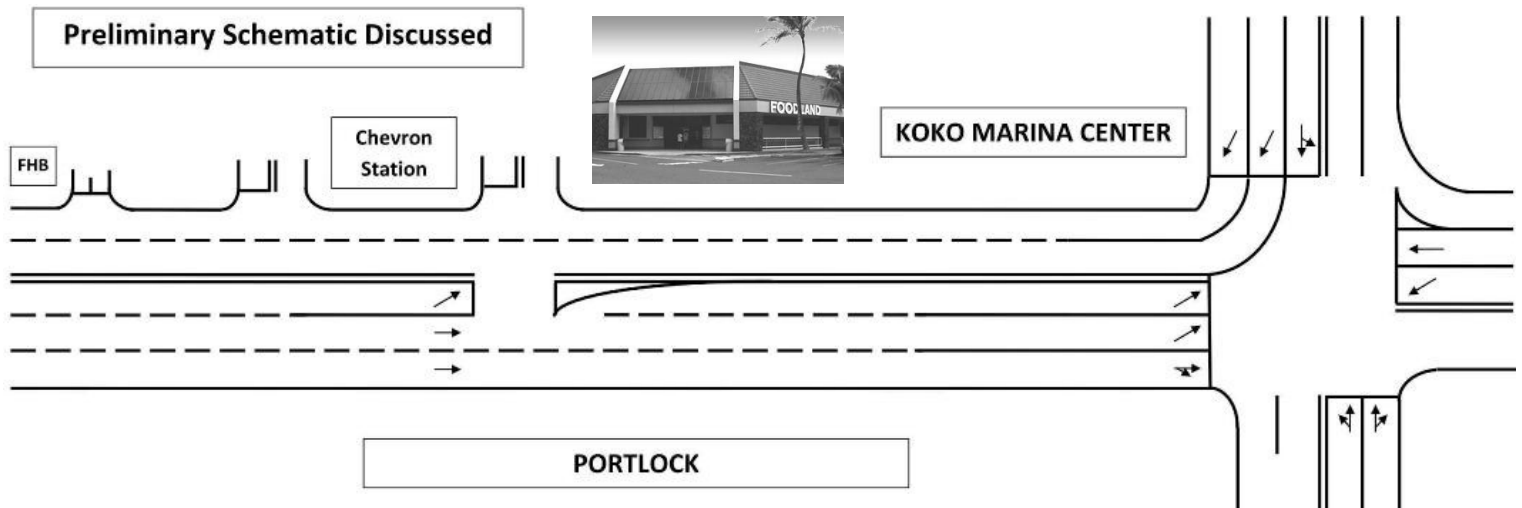


2012 4th Quarter Report

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

www.facebook.com/repward • gene-ward.com • 586-6420 • repward@capitol.hawaii.gov

Is There a Safer Way to Enter and Exit Koko Marina Center?



Community members, Koko Marina Center management and the Honolulu Police Department participated in a townhall on Tuesday, October 16th to discuss traffic solutions for entering and exiting Koko Marina Center. Between September 10, 2009 and September 10, 2012, a total of 163 motor vehicle collisions were reported at the Center's street address. Twenty-two of the accidents took place on Kalaniana'ole Hwy., while 141 took place within the center proper (e.g. fender benders, minor side swipes, etc.). **Members of the community strongly opposed the installation of a traffic signal as a solution to the dangers of entering and exiting the Center.** Participants also **agreed**

that left turns out of the center to Kalaniana'ole Hwy. should not be allowed. Rep. Ward presented a preliminary schematic option for discussion which included dedicated left turn "stacking lanes" for the Center and Lunalilo Home Road. Koko Marina Center management is concerned about safety and does not want their customers to get into any accidents. **A meeting is pending with the Center's management and the Department of Transportation to refine possible plans.** To receive a full transcript of the townhall meeting, please contact Rep. Ward's office via e-mail at: repward@capitol.hawaii.gov or call (808) 586-6420.

KA IWI WATCH UPDATE:



As of November 15th, 2012, no applications have been filed for development on Ka Iwi, according to the City's Department of Planning and Permitting.

"GREAT LAWN" STRIP MALL UPDATE:



As of October 24, 2012, results of Kamehameha Schools' OmniTrak survey have not been shared with Rep. Ward, et.al. In the meantime it appears that more and more community members do not favor a return of Foodland via the proposed strip mall located across from Maunaloa Bay.

What's Going on Across the Street From Costco?

Kudos to Kamehameha Schools for their support of the community. The school has allowed the temporary storage of material and equipment by the City and County of Honolulu in conjunction with their sewer line removal work on Kalaniana'ole Highway. Coincidentally, the Board of Water Supply found the temporary storage useful in response to a water main break on October 17th that allowed for a quicker repair of the main. Screens have been installed for dust and runoff mitigation and the school will inspect its property on a monthly basis.

Thinking About Installing a Solar Energy System?



Solar tax credits under attack during the 2012 session were preserved. **However, the Administration has issued new rules beginning January 1, 2013** which will decrease the tax credit by up to as much as 50%. Stay

tuned for intense discussion on the issue during the 2013 legislative session which begins on January 16, 2013.

Why Was Traffic so Slow on Kalaniana'ole Highway?

Portions of the above ground emergency bypass sewer pipe that were buried underground at the intersections of Kalaniana'ole Highway and Pu'uikena Drive, West Halema'uma'u Street and Niuki Circle were removed by the City and County of Honolulu. The removal of the plastic pipes allows for easier highway maintenance and removes any obstacles during future installation of utilities. Future lane closure updates are available on the State Department of Transportation's website: (www.hawaii.gov/dot). Sorry for the slow down!

Constituent's Corner

- **Mariner's Ridge Hiking Trail**
Let's all respect the trail and residents of the area by picking up our trash, refraining from trespassing and by discontinuing illegal camp fires.
- **Maunalua Bay Restroom Renovations**
The project is estimated to conclude in "early 2013"!!
- **Rep. Ward's Talk Story "Beer Summit"**
Will be held Thursday, January 3, 2012 at Kona Brewing Company, Koko Marina Shopping Center, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- **Need a monthly update on what is going on in Hawai'i Kai?**
Call 586-6420 to sign up for Rep. Ward's newsletter.

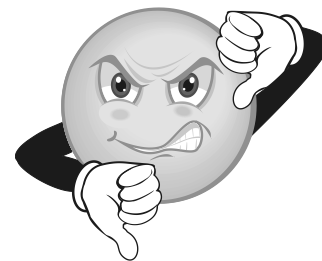
No Landfills on Ka Iwi!



Rep. Ward sent a letter to Mayor Carlisle noting his strong opposition to the placement of a landfill on the Ka Iwi coastline. The letter was in response to "Uplands Hawai'i Kai" being included on a list of potential landfill sites. Mayor Carlisle recently sent a letter in response stating that "prior to any site moving forward, an Environmental Impact Statement will need to be completed and this process will allow for extensive input by all interested parties."

We will continue to monitor this issue very closely!

Tax Increases Recommended to 2013 Legislature



No New Taxes!!!

On September 11, 2012, Rep. Ward testified at a meeting of the 2010-2012 Tax Review Commission in **opposition to tax increases** recommended in a report drafted by The PFM Group. These recommendations include raising the G.E.T. from 4% to 4.5% (on O'ahu this would be an increase from 4.5% to 5%), raising the corporate income tax, eliminating the deduction for property taxes paid, and implementing a tax on pensions. See his Star Advertiser Op-Ed located at: <http://tinyurl.com/b6m7ehw>