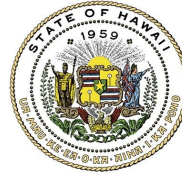


Representative

2013

Gene Ward

Minority Leader Emeritus



January Report

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

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What's the Big Crane Doing Behind the "GREAT LAWN"!?



It's the biggest crane seen in Hawai'i Kai since our condos were built in the 1970's. But rest assured that the crane is not related to Kamehameha Schools' proposed development of the "Great Lawn." The huge crane will be used during the dredging of the marina. The project is pending one last permit to be obtained by the Hawai'i Kai Marina Community Association. The dredging project will require the crane to be in place for many months, so please pass the word the word along.

KA IWI WATCH UPDATE:

- No Permits Filed -



As of January 29th, 2013, no applications have been filed for development on Ka Iwi, according to the City's Department of Planning and Permitting.

STRIP MALL ON "GREAT LAWN" STILL ALIVE:



Kamehameha Schools continues to propose a strip mall development across from Manualua Bay. In correspondence with Hawai'i Kai residents, KSBE has reported that 72% of their survey respondents support a retail center anchored by Foodland at the "Great Lawn."

This is in stark contrast to a survey conducted by Rep. Ward's office last Spring when almost 70% responded in opposition to the idea. Our office continues to receive e-mails and phone calls in opposition to the development of a strip mall with some of our neighbors suggesting that the vacant land be turned into a park with jogging paths and picnic areas. So please continue to provide your feedback to Kamehameha Schools (ksinfo@ksbe.edu), AS WELL AS PLEASE ANSWER THE QUESTION BELOW FOR THE RECORD:

Question of the Month:

Do you support a strip mall at the "Great Lawn"? YES? NO?

Please call, fax, or e-mail your response and any suggestions on what should be done with the "Great Lawn."

2013 LEGISLATURE OPENS



Opening Day of the 2013 session of the 27th Legislature was held on Wednesday, January 16, 2013. **Rep. Ward** was officially named “Minority Leader Emeritus” as well as the **Vice Chair of the House Committee on Economic Development & Business**; he also continues to serve as the **Co-Chair of the Bi-Partisan House/Senate Small Business Caucus**. Highlights of a few of the bills Rep. Ward introduced include:

- **HB 1465 - CIP: Appropriates funds** for projects at district schools, including much needed renovations to **Kaiser High School’s track and field**, the renovation of the Maunaloa Bay boat ramp, and planning and design funding for improvements to Kalaniana’ole Highway while entering and exiting Koko Marina Center.
- **HB 1229 - Open Space Preservation:** Funding to preserve open space in Hawai‘i Kai (including the “Great Lawn”).
- **HB 461 - Net Metering for Non-Profits:** Allows excess electricity generated by PV systems to be donated as credits to any charitable organization.
- **HB 1231 - Maunaloa Bay:** Appropriates funds for a full-time Harbormaster for Maunaloa Bay.
- **HB 1031 - Task Force to Measure ‘Inouye Cliff’:** Creates task force to measure size and impact of federal funds cutbacks due to sequestration and absence of Sen. Inouye.
- **HB 1228 - Solar on Every Roof:** Establishes a “means test” in order to not phase out the full renewable energy income tax credit in order to make the installation of photovoltaic renewable energy systems affordable.
- **HB 1461 - Driverless Cars:** Authorizes testing of driverless (autonomous) vehicles in the State.
- **HB 1227 - Keeping Iolani Palace Sacred:** Phases out parking meters and cars parking on palace grounds and restores walkways and paths in keeping with the stature of a palace.
- **HB 1030 and HB 1466 - Education:** Bills to keep our keiki in school longer; makes kindergarten attendance mandatory, and increases the drop-out age to 17 years old.

FEB. COFFEE/BEER SUMMITS

Rep. Ward will continue to host his popular coffee and beer summits throughout the legislative session to hear your concerns: do you have an issue or problem he needs to know about, or act upon? Just stop by for a chat at:

Coffee Summit - Tuesday, February 5, 2013 - 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Zippy’s - Koko Marina Center

Beer Summit - Thursday, February 7, 2013 - 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Kona Brewing Company pub - Koko Marina Center

Hawai‘i Should Prepare Now for Driverless Vehicles

Star Advertiser

Robots are building cars, fighting wars and vacuuming our floors, and though they’re still not quite ready to drive us to work, they’re getting closer.



We’ve heard of self-parking cars, but things are moving rapidly toward self-driving cars. For example, Nissan’s new electric Leaf will now be able to park itself without a person being inside the vehicle. Volvo, GM and Ford are soon to release a technology that senses the car in front of you and automatically adjusts your speed, and has lane-departure warning systems.

See the rest of Rep. Ward and Rep. Takai’s Op-Ed at: <http://tinyurl.com/b9e5dcb>

Constituent’s Corner

• Why was Traffic **SO SLOW** on Kalaniana’ole Highway early January?

According to the state Department of Transportation, unbeknownst to most of us, the Ainakoa area and the soccer field became a parking lot for people attending the Sony Open, and were busy pushing the walk button which threw off all of the synchronized lights along the highway. Sound believable? DOT ‘guaranteed’ it won’t happen again.

• Keahole Right Turn Comments Sought

Please send us your comments on how the new right lane has affected your walking, cycling and driving experience. See also, Op-Ed by Natalie Iwasa at: <http://bit.ly/X73Far>. Mahalo!

Need a monthly update on what is going on in Hawai‘i Kai? Call 586-6420 to sign up for Rep. Ward’s newsletter.