

jlFor Immediate Release
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Queen Street Improvement Project scheduled for 2007

Honolulu, Hawai'i---The Hawai'i Community Development Authority, the agency responsible for redeveloping the Kaka'ako area in downtown Honolulu, announces a postponement of construction work on a segment of the Queen Street Improvement Project until early 2007. Realignment and upgrading work on Queen Street between Ward Avenue and Kamakee Street was originally planned for 2006.

“The City and County of Honolulu is planning to make its preliminary route selection for the mass transit system this fall,” said HCDA Executive Director Daniel Dinell. “The state did not want to start a project, disrupt businesses and traffic in the area, inconvenience people, and then have to change in mid-stream if Queen Street is chosen for the mass transit route. The Queen Street Improvements will still take place, but it makes better sense to wait until the transit route decision is made before we begin this phase of the Kaka'ako redevelopment effort.”

“We want this to be of minimal impact to the users of Queen Street, and of maximum value to the taxpayers of Hawai'i,” said Dinell. The City & County of Honolulu is projecting November 2006 as the earliest date it will determine alignment of the transit system. Based on that timetable, the upgrading of Queen Street between Ward Avenue and Kamake'e Street is tentatively scheduled to begin in January 2007.

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