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# HART

HONOLULU AUTHORITY for RAPID TRANSPORTATION

*HART WEEKLY eBLAST | JULY 12, 2013*

## RAIL AND TOURISM



*HART's informational booth at the 2013 Hawaii Hospitality & Lodging Association Expo.*

HART staff members participated in the 2013 Hawaii Hotel & Lodging Association's Expo at the Blaisdell Center this week to talk to members of the hospitality industry on the benefits of the rail system that will stop right outside of Waikiki's doorstep at Ala Moana Center.

On any given day in the 3.5 square miles that is Waikiki, there are about 20,000 residents, nearly 32,000 workers and approximately 65,000 visitors.

Honolulu's rail transit system will benefit not only the more than four million visitors who come to our island every year, but also many of the local residents who live and work in Waikiki.

Rail will make life better for our visitor industry employees in several ways. Most importantly, it will provide a quick, reliable and affordable commute to and from work as it will be integrated with TheBus service in and out of Waikiki.

Rail will also significantly reduce transportation expenses, including the cost of gasoline, maintenance and parking fees. And rail will improve the quality of life for Waikiki workers saving them the time now spent in traffic. Instead of having to rise and shine early, they can spend additional hours at home. Those workers who live in communities such as Kapolei, Waipahu and Kalihi will have easy access to the rail line, while others, residing in

Ewa Beach and other communities, will have frequent and convenient bus connections to rail.

Rail will increase the transportation options available to our visitors. Rail service at the Honolulu International Airport provides the most obvious benefit. Additionally, rail will give visitors access to popular destinations and communities outside Waikiki, such as Chinatown, Aloha Stadium and island shopping malls. And, from a vantage point 30 feet or more above the traffic, the train will offer views of Oahu's scenery not enjoyed by those commuting in ground transportation.

Valued at \$10 billion annually, the Hawaii visitor and hospitality industry, which has been called the state's economic engine, will benefit substantially from the rail transit system.

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## *STATION DESIGN MEETINGS UNDERWAY*



*West Loch Station - Makai Entrance*

HART staff members will be back out in the community to conduct a rail station design informational meeting to discuss and receive input from the public about the stations planned for the University of Hawaii - West Oahu and East Kapolei on Tuesday, July 30th at Kapolei Hale (Conference Rooms A & B). Registration will begin at 6 p.m. with the meeting and presentation taking place at 6:30 p.m.

HART recently held a similar meeting for the Farrington Highway Station Group which includes the three Waipahu stations. These stations will provide transit riders access to a range of businesses, services, schools and shopping venues.

The West Loch Station will serve residents of Waipahu and Ewa Beach and will be located at the intersection of Farrington Highway and Leoku Street. This station provides easy access to Don Quixote store half a block away on Leoku Street. The station will extend over the median of Farrington Highway, with entrances on both sides of the street.

Traveling west from West Loch Station, East Kapolei Station will be eight minutes away. Headed east, the train will take 13 minutes to reach Aloha Stadium, 18 minutes to the Airport, 30 minutes to downtown Honolulu, and 34 minutes to Ala Moana Center.

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## *TRAFFIC ALERT*



Lane closures will take place next week in the Pearl Harbor, airport and urban Honolulu areas to accommodate design work for the rail transit project.

Traffic lanes will be closed from Monday, July 15 to Friday, July 19, between 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Kamehameha Highway between Center Drive and Valkenburgh Street in the west-bound direction and on Kamehameha Highway between Radford Drive and Center Drive in both the east and west-bound directions.

In addition, lane closures and traffic lane adjustments are planned along Kamehameha Highway near Marukai Wholesale Mart and on Waiwai Loop near Lagoon Drive. There will also be lane closures on Aolele Street near the Airport Post Office between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

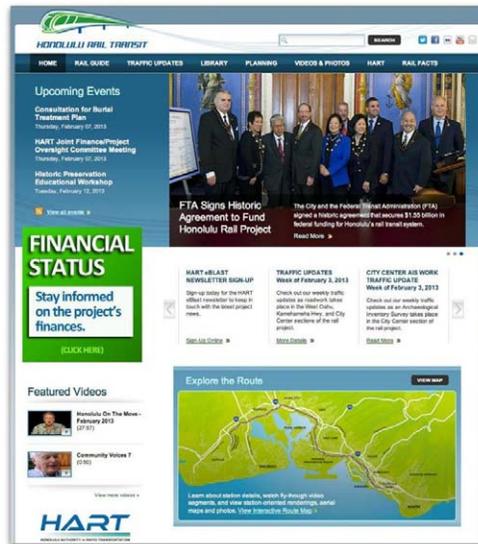
Moving lane closures will occur between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. on Dillingham Boulevard between Middle Street and Ka`a`ahi Street and on Halekauwila Street between Keawe Street and Ward Avenue.

Motorists should anticipate some possible delays in traffic and proceed with caution through the work areas.

For updates on work days and times, visit the project website at [www.HonoluluTransit.org](http://www.HonoluluTransit.org) or contact our hotline at (808) 566-2299.

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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