Kakaako Connection

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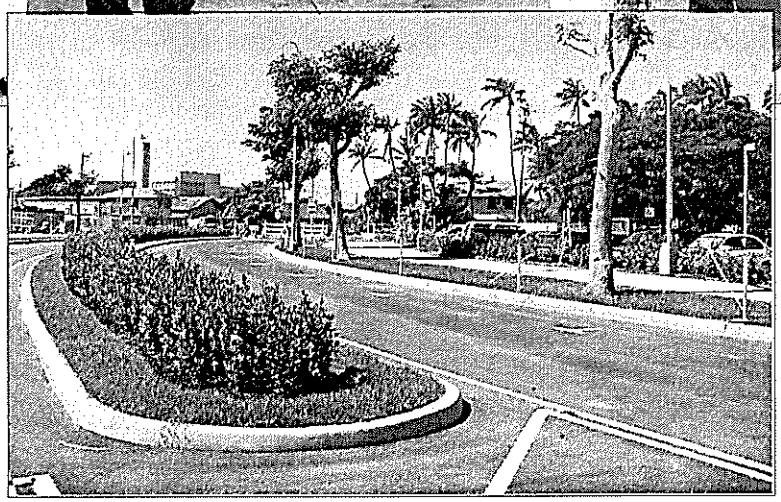
KAKAAKO

Where Honolulu Greets The Sea

WARD AVENUE EXTENSION NOW OPEN

Dedication Ceremony Held on Nov. 20



Above, Governor Ben Cayetano (left) and State House Speaker Calvin Say untie the maile to commemorate the dedication of the Ward Avenue Extension. They are surrounded by (from left to right): First Lady Vicky Cayetano, Reverend James Fung, HCDA Chair Lori Ann Lum and State Senator Norman Sakamoto.

At right, a portion of the Ward Avenue Extension.

Governor Ben Cayetano and other State officials participated in a dedication ceremony on November 20, 2000, celebrating the completion and opening of the Ward Avenue Extension. Now open for public use, the Ward Avenue Extension Project is the first phase of the development of new and enhanced roadways and utility systems in Kakaako's Makai Area. For this $8 million public works project, a new roadway was constructed from the intersection of Ward Avenue and Ala Moana Boulevard to the intersection of Ahui and Ilalo Streets. The roadway and utility system enhancements of the Ward Avenue Extension will play a crucial role in the State's plan to transform Kakaako's Makai Area and waterfront into a world-class center of activities to be enjoyed by Hawaii's families and visitors.

The Ward Avenue Extension greatly improves vehicular and pedestrian access and circulation in Kakaako Makai. The improvements included: the installation of new water, sewer and drainage structures; construction of the new roadway; new driveways, sidewalks, curbs and gutters; and the relocation and expansion of existing overhead electrical, telephone and cable television lines to new underground systems. The project also improved approximately 150 feet of Ahui Street, Makai of Ilalo Street.

Speaking at the dedication ceremony, HCDA Chair Lori Ann Lum stated: "Several years ago, HCDA recognized that, in order to transform Kakaako into a center of commercial and cultural activity, major infrastructure improvements would be

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AUTHORITY LENDS SUPPORT TO TWO NEW KAKAAKO MAKAI PROJECT PROPOSALS

New UH Biomedical/Educational Campus and High Tech Business are Proposed

Members of the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) recently acted on two projects that could create a new biomedical campus/research center and high-tech business complex in Kakaako's Makai Area. At its January 10 meeting, the Authority adopted a resolution expressing support, on a conceptual basis, for the development of a new University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) biomedical and educational campus in the area Makai of Ilalo Street and adjacent to the Kakaako Waterfront Park. For another project, HCDA members also approved the start of formal negotiations with Adtech, Inc. for the leasing of land in Kakaako Makai where the company is proposing to build its new headquarters.

The University of Hawaii JABSOM is proposing to replace its outdated facility at UH-Manoa with a new biomedical and educational campus in Kakaako. After evaluating several different sites, it determined that Kakaako Makai would be the best site for the new facility because of the area's central location and ability to accommodate the School's projected programs. The School feels that a new state-of-the-art biomedical campus will help to establish JABSOM as a nationally and internationally recognized center of excellence in the field of medical education and biomedical research in the Pacific Basin. The facility will attract top educators, researchers and students that in turn bring significant economic investment and diversification for the State of Hawaii, according to the School's administrators.

Conceptual plans for the proposed landscaped campus include up to six new buildings for research, administration, a visitor's center and medical museum and parking. The School is seeking legislative funding of $15 million for planning and design of the proposed facility in Fiscal Year 2001-2002 and $126 million for construction in Fiscal Year 2002-203. Further HCDA approvals will be required as the project moves forward.

Adtech, Inc., a local company that designs, builds and sells telecommunications testing equipment, is proposing to develop new office space on approximately 5.25 acres of land Ewa of the Produce Center in Kakaako Makai. Adtech company officials state that the company has outgrown its present Kaimuki office space and that the new building would accommodate its growing workforce, which could increase to 800 people by the year 2005. The Authority's approval signals the beginning of negotiations between HCDA and Adtech, which are expected to take a maximum of four months to complete. During this period, the parties will seek to complete an Option to Lease Agreement and ground lease. Authority approval of these documents will be required.

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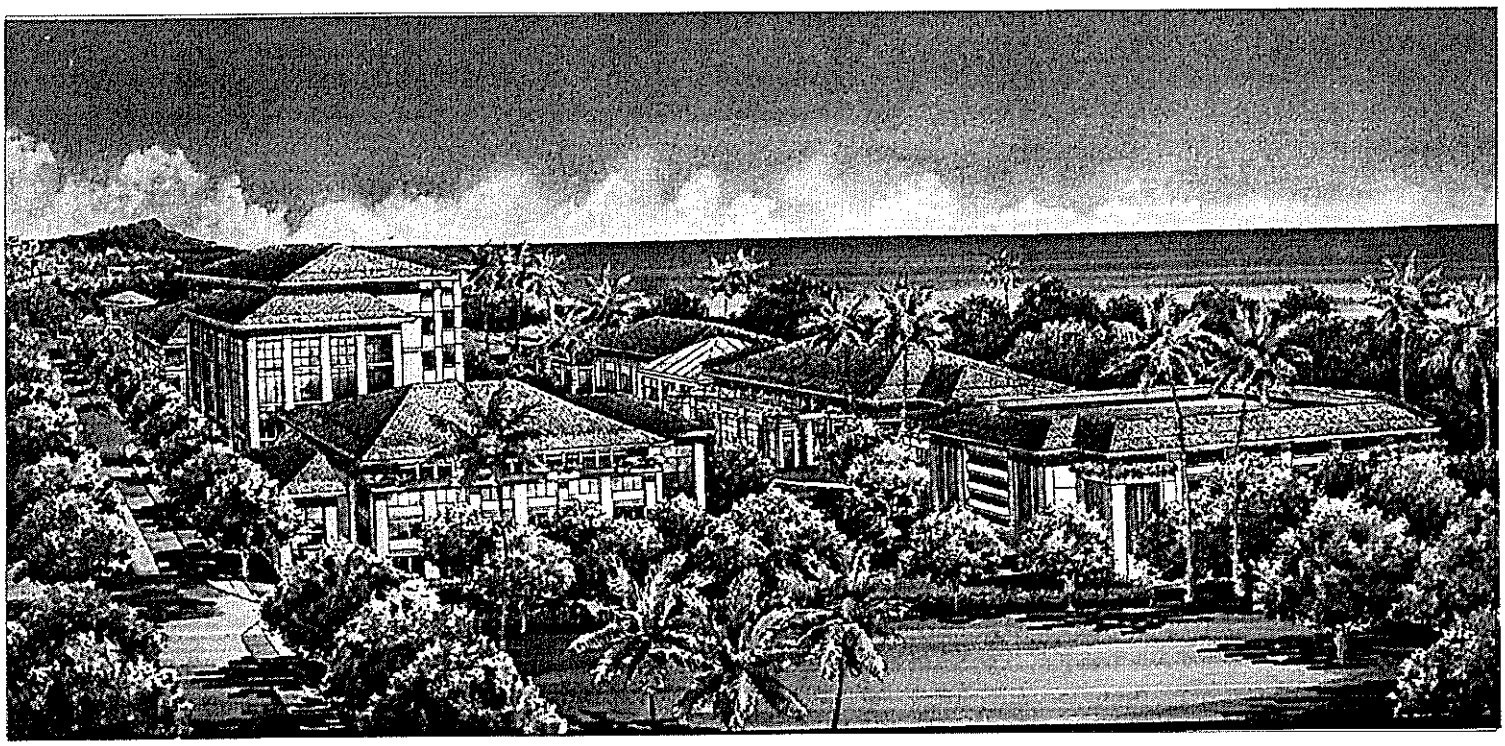
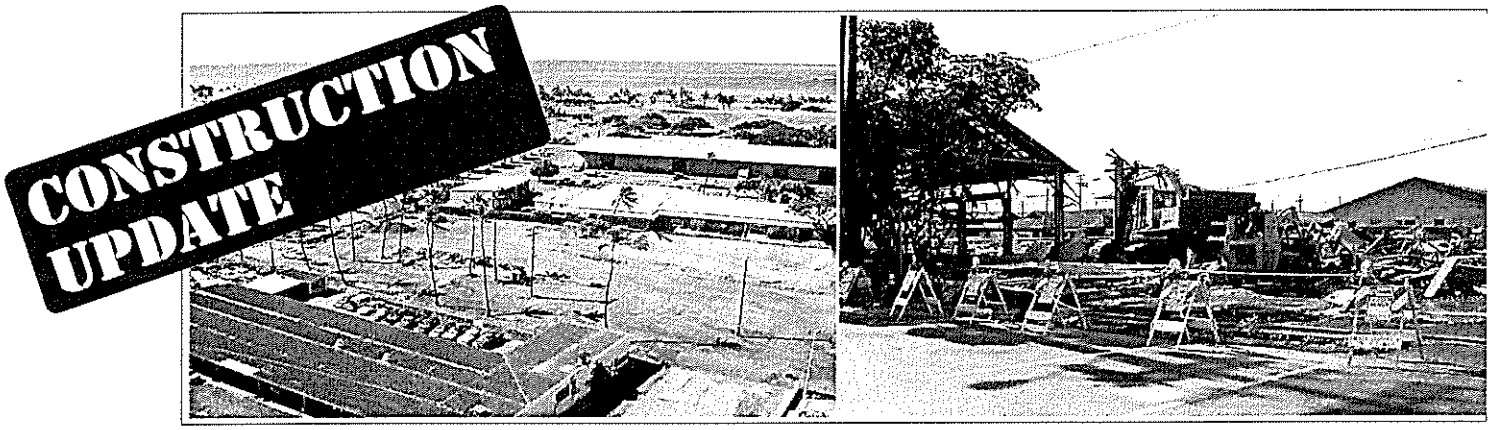


A preliminary conceptual illustration of the proposed JABSOM facility.

KAKAAKO IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT PROJECTS:



The Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) is currently constructing two improvement district projects involving roadway and utility system improvements in the Kakaako District. Following are brief summaries and street closures/traffic rerouting advisories for these projects. Motorists and pedestrians are advised to exercise caution and to follow traffic advisory signs in the construction areas.

Kamakee Street Improvements (ID-7)

Description: This project involves infrastructure improvements on Kamakee Street (from Queen Street to Kewalo Basin) and a realignment of Kamakee Street (from Auahi Street to Ala Moana Boulevard), creating a four-way signalized intersection at Ala Moana Boulevard and Ala Moana Park Road. This project is tentatively scheduled for completion in May 2001. The contractor is Delta Construction Corp.

Street/lane closures: On Ala Moana Boulevard, two lanes of traffic in each direction will be maintained as underground utility ducts are installed on the Mauka side of Ala Moana Boulevard. The portion of Kamakee Street (between Ala Moana Boulevard and Auahi Street) remains closed for the installation of utility ducts. One lane of traffic in each direction is being maintained on a portion of Kamakee Street (from Auahi Street to Queen Street) for the installation of a new box drain.

Ilalo Street Improvements (ID-9)

Description: This $17 million project will improve the infrastructure of Ilalo Street, from Ahui Street to Forrest Avenue (South Street). Ilalo Street is planned to be a beautifully landscaped boulevard that would serve as the principal collector street for the Makai Area and would also provide an attractive pedestrian environment. For this project, new water, sewer, drainage and underground utility systems are being installed along with the construction of a new roadway, driveways, pedestrianway, curbs and gutters. Improvements are needed to improve access to the Makai Area and support future development. Construction is slated for completion in July 2002. The contractor is Hawaiian Dredging Construction Company.

Street/lane closures: On Ilalo Street, the segment between Keawe and Coral Streets will be closed for the next 6-9 months. The entrance to the Food Distribution Center has been rerouted to either Cooke or Ohe Streets. Also, the entrance to the Department of Agriculture building has been rerouted to the Kakaako Makai Gateway Park Road at the Makai end of Cooke Street.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS PROPOSED FOR KAKAAKO MAKAI

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HCDA Executive Director Jan Yokota stated that the Authority's January 10 actions on the JABSOM and Adtech projects support the State's goals of using portions of the State-owned lands in Kakaako Makai for accommodating the needs of the emerging biotechnology and high technology industries. "These developments will contribute to the critical mass essential to the development success of Kakaako Makai. In addition, we expect that these projects will create a large number of new jobs in Kakaako and will attract similar businesses to the area, serving as a strong boost to the Hawaii economy," she added.

GOVERNOR TO BE KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT KIA MEETING ON JANUARY 24

Guests to Focus on Plans for Kakaako Makai Area

Governor Ben Cayetano and other planned guest speakers for the Kakaako Improvement Association's (KIA) General Membership Meeting on January 24 will talk about their visions and plans for Kakaako's Makai Area. The meeting will begin at 11:30 a.m. in the Kakaako Room, Ward Warehouse (on the second floor of the building where C. June Shoes is located). Bev Harbin, KIA President, expects turnout at the meeting to be heavy and she urges KIA members to send in their RSVP forms as soon as possible.

Governor Cayetano will speak about his plans for Kakaako Makai and will entertain questions on his overall vision and philosophy for the area. UH Medical School Dean Edwin C. Cadman will provide an overview of the new medical school/biomedical research center that is proposed for the Makai Area. Also, Bruce Carlson, Director of the Waikiki Aquarium, will speak on the proposed Marine Science and Education Center envisioned for Kakaako Makai.

WARD AVENUE EXTENSION NOW OPEN *Continued from Page 1*

needed. The first step was this Ward Avenue Extension Project, which connects the Mauka and Makai areas of Kakaako and provides an entryway into the waterfront area. This extension will connect to Ilalo Street, which will serve as the main thoroughfare of Kakaako's waterfront area."

Governor Cayetano shared his vision for the Kakaako waterfront with the dedication ceremony audience. "The Kakaako Waterfront is the last significant underdeveloped area in urban Honolulu," he said. "This gives us a great opportunity to create a waterfront that will stand among the best in the world. The many people who came before us have had their own ideas on what to do in Kakaako. We have taken the best of those ideas and built on them to create a new vision. Kakaako will be a place for people to gather, for families to enjoy, for children to discover, for people to work, for scholars to teach or do research, and for students to learn. The work has already begun and we've made good progress." The Governor also spoke of aims to locate a world-class aquarium, a science and technology center, and a new medical school/biomedical research center in Kakaako Makai. He added, "We know that the state's success with Kakaako Makai will determine the development of all of Kakaako. The potential is there to lure some of the biggest companies in biotech and high technology. If we succeed, that will bring in more meaningful jobs and better lives for our young people. This roadway will lead to a bigger vision and it is just the beginning."

The Ward Avenue Extension was constructed in two phases. Construction began in September 1998 on the first phase, which involved the demolition of several structures in the Kewalo Basin area. The infrastructure and roadway improvements, the project's second phase, commenced in May 1999. The project was completed in November 2000. KORL Construction and Hawaiian Dredging Construction Company were the contractors for the project.

(Visit the new HCDA web site: http://www.HCDAweb.org)

THE KAKAAKO CONNECTION
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