

KNA Transportation Committee

Updated Recommendations to the KNA Board of Directors

March 3rd, 2015

The following updated recommendations are made by the Kīlauea Neighborhood Association's (KNA) Transportation Committee, which was formed in May of 2011 to provide guidance to the KNA regarding transportation improvements within and around Kīlauea town. The committee was formed in large part, in response to the pending development of a 45,000 sqft. commercial/retail center near the Kīlauea town center by the Hunt Development Group, which promises to compound existing traffic congestion along Kīlauea and Kolo Roads and at critical intersections around town. Recommendations are guided by community input, the published recommendations of the Kīlauea Town Plan (Sept. 2006), and numerous meetings with County and State DOT personnel. The end goal of the committee is to promote modifications to existing infrastructure and guidance for the development of new infrastructure so as to create better multi-modal transportation opportunities within the Kīlauea community. It is hoped that the KNA Board of Directors will use the committee's recommendations to guide discussions with government officials and landowner/developers.

- 1. New Entry Road** – the Kīlauea Town Plan recommends a new entry road, which would connect Kuhio Highway with the town center via Keneke St. (a.k.a. “Post Office Road”). Regarding the New Entry Road, the Transportation Committee recommends:
 - It is the community's wish that the New Entry Road be designed and constructed ASAP.
 - That the New Entry Road be included on the current update to the Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan being prepared by the State DOT.
 - That an AASHTO¹ “Functional Classification” be obtained for the New Entry Road ASAP. The USFWS, Kīlauea Refuge may have an important role to play in the classification.
 - The New Entry Road needs to be included on the State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) ASAP – There are quarterly opportunities to get on the STIP. The County of Kauai would need to “sponsor” the project.

- 2. Kuhio Highway Considerations**
 - Traffic Impact Assessment Report (TIAR) associated with the New Entry Road should evaluate the community's preference for a roundabout at Kuhio Highway intersection (as opposed to a more traditional or lighted intersection).
 - DOT needs to improve Kuhio Hwy intersections at Pili and Ho`okui Road by adding acceleration & deceleration lanes and storage lanes.

¹ American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials,
<http://www.transportation.org/>

- The TIAR should also evaluate a “Right-in, Right-out” only for the Kolo Rd. intersection at gas station.
- TIAR should evaluate the addition of turning lanes at the Kalihiwai Road Intersection just west of the New Entry Road (OR eventually a re-routing of Kalihiwai Road through Kīlauea Plateau property via the New Entry Road). This is primarily a safety concern.
- Highway signage for the Kīlauea Lighthouse should direct visitors to use the New Entry Road rather than the Kolo Road entry.

3. New By-Pass Road Extension - the Kīlauea Town Plan also promotes a “By-Pass Road”, the primary purpose of which would be to route visitor traffic to the Kīlauea Lighthouse around the town center to avoid congestion within town. This Bypass Road would be an alternate, extension to the New Entry Road with a connection to Kīlauea Road north of the town center. Recommendations of the Transportation Committee relative to the Bypass Road:

- Since visitor traffic to the Lighthouse accounts for roughly 20-25% of the vehicles currently traveling along Kīlauea Road, this is an important solution toward the goal of creating a more walk able community.
- An interim adjunct to the By-Pass Rd. would be a “Park-n-Ride” for visitors to the Kīlauea Wildlife Refuge either at Kuhio Highway or near the Kīlauea Lighthouse Village.
- In recognition of the inherent funding challenges, the Transportation Committee recommends that the Bypass Road be pursued concurrently with the New Entry Road but as a separate project with separate funding.
- The USFWS should play an active role in the desired outcome.
- The By-Pass should be included on the STIP as well.

4. Kīlauea Road – The Kīlauea Town Plan recommends modifications along Kīlauea Road to make it more bike and pedestrian friendly. Recommendations of the Transportation Committee include:

- If there is enough area, there is a preference for a roundabout (or mini traffic circle) at the Keneke St & Kīlauea Rd intersection near Kong Lung.
- At a minimum turning lanes & traffic calming measures are needed at this intersection.
- Consider a narrowing of existing traffic lanes on Kīlauea Road to allow room for biking and pedestrian OR a 1-way conversion of Kīlauea Rd. (north bound only) – from Kolo Road to Oka St. These measures would slow down or reduce vehicular traffic on Kīlauea Road and thereby encourage cars to use the New Entry Road and Bypass Road.
- Implement traffic calming measures (i.e. cross walks, speed bumps, bulb outs, etc.)
- Relocate overhead utilities underground and plant trees along the Kīlauea Road corridor.

5. Kolo Road

- Traffic calming & pedestrian improvements are needed (especially to promote a “Safe Routes to School” program).

- When the new entry road is constructed a “Right-in, Right-out” only for the Kolo Rd. intersection at gas station should be considered.

6. Multi-Modal Transportation Planning

- Support the North Shore Path planning effort to create a network of multi-use paths to connect the communities of Kīlauea, Princeville, and Hanalei.
- Consider a Kuhio Highway underpass near the Kīlauea Pavilion to connect the north & south sides of the Kīlauea community.
- Complete Streets – encourage the County to implement the Kīlauea & Princeville Multi-Use Path & Complete Streets Mobility Plan as proposed by Kauai Path.

7. Transit/Bus Solutions

- Incorporate bus stops at appropriate location(s) near Keneke St., Kolo Road, Kuhio Hwy & Town Center
- Provide convenient access to Park & Ride opportunities
- Support the creation of car-share initiatives.