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Kulanihako'i High School Status Report February 2023

- The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department), the State Department of Transportation (DOT) and county offices have been addressing community questions, concerns, and soliciting input as the Department worked to open the school in early 2023.
- The cost and construction contracts awarded to date is \$208.7 million. The Department worked closely with the DOT to evaluate various grade separation alternatives over the past couple of years.
- Based on evaluating pros and cons of all grade separation options, the DOT is committed to build and maintain a grade separation pedestrian overpass. The projected cost to build a pedestrian overpass is estimated between \$18 – 25 million. The Department and DOT will work collaboratively to ensure a pedestrian overpass is built.
- The Department is fulfilling the Land Use Commission (LUC) intent of providing a safe crossing of the highway for students by providing several safety measures, including:
 - A roundabout that slows traffic through the area and at the intersection to allow safe crossing.
 - Police officers/crossing guards at the intersection during drop off and pick up times to enhance safety. The Department is working closely with the Maui Police Department (MPD). MPD Security Resource Officers (SRO) will review recommended safety procedures and offer additional improvements.
 - Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) to highlight pedestrian crossings will be installed to function at all times of the day to alert drivers of pedestrians and to slow down for safety purposes.
 - The Department purchased two 15 passenger vans and will provide shuttle services to and from the school in the interim while the pedestrian overpass is being built. The vans are an alternative for students crossing the highway at grade.

- The Department requests the LUC reconsider reviewing the committed safety measures to be implemented and reconsider allowing the Department to open Kulanihakoī High School before the grade separated pedestrian overpass is completed. Although the safety measures do not yet include a grade separated crossing, the provisions taken by the Department to provide safe access for students should satisfy the safety intent. The Department is committed to complete remaining safety measures and respectfully requests the LUC's consideration to issue a condition amendment that supports opening Kulanihakoī High School in the summer of 2023.
- The Department understands Maui County has the authority to provide and issue a temporary certificate of occupancy once LUC agrees with the Department's current plans and commitments. Opening Kulanihakoī High School this year will benefit Kihei and surrounding communities immediately and enable students who have been waiting to continue their educational journey and experiences. Kulanihakoī will provide local residents with tremendous opportunities to leverage the State's investment and support Maui County.