

**PUBLIC WORKS AND TRAFFIC COMMITTEE**  
Council of the County of Maui

**MINUTES**

**September 4, 2003**

**Site Inspection**

**CONVENE:** 7:16 a.m.

**PRESENT:** Councilmember Michael J. Molina, Chair  
Councilmember Charmaine Tavares, Vice-Chair  
Councilmember G. Riki Hokama, Member  
Councilmember Dain P. Kane, Member  
Councilmember Joseph Pontanilla, Member  
Councilmember Danny Mateo, non-Member

**ABSENT:** None

**EXCUSED:** None

**STAFF:** Gary Saldana, Legislative Analyst  
Jo-Ann Sato, Committee Secretary

**ADMIN.:** Gilbert S. Coloma-Agaran, Director of Public Works and Environmental  
Management  
Cindy Y. Young, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the  
Corporation Counsel  
Jeffrey Tanoue, Lieutenant, Traffic Section, Department of Police  
Eric Lee-Correa, Community Police Officer, Department of Police

**OTHERS:** Penrod Vladyka, Vice Principal, Samuel E. Kalama Intermediate School  
Margot Sneed, Traffic Safety Control Officer, Samuel E. Kalama  
Intermediate School  
Lynn Garcia  
Pietro Porcella  
Louis J. DeCoite  
Mike Trotto  
Sean Lester  
Tricia Bergau  
Peter Cahill

**PRESS:** Matthew Thayer, *The Maui News*

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**PWT-17 PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IN SCHOOL ZONES (INCLUDING  
MAKANI ROAD AND MAKAWAO AVENUE)**

The Committee assembled on the mauka side of Makawao Avenue at its intersection with Makani Road (subject intersection), then proceeded along Makawao Avenue to Pokani Street.

Chair Molina convened the site inspection by introducing the Committee members, staff and Administration representatives. He noted that the purpose of the site inspection is to review traffic and pedestrian safety enhancements installed at the subject intersection.

The Director of Public Works and Environmental Management (Director) provided an overview of the roadway improvements at the subject intersection. He noted that striping of the crosswalk at Pokani Street and Makawao Avenue has assisted with vehicle sight distance and pedestrian access. He also noted the speed limit and pedestrian signage, a raised crosswalk along Makawao Avenue, a crosswalk along Makani Road and the narrowing of traffic lanes along Makawao Avenue that were made to reduce vehicular speed.

Pietro Porcella stated that a sidewalk should be installed from Eddie Tam Memorial Center to the Samuel E. Kalama Intermediate School to improve pedestrian access and safety. He further stated that a by-pass should be developed that removes the children from Makawao Avenue, which is a busy thoroughfare.

The Director indicated that a sidewalk project is scheduled for Fiscal Year 2006.

Lynn Garcia stated that children are currently walking along Makawao Avenue and Makani Road, which may create a safety hazard. She concurred with Mr. Porcella's recommendation to redirect the children away from Makawao Avenue.

The Community Police Officer stated that vehicle speed has not changed since the installation of the raised crosswalk and other roadway improvements. He also noted that the pedestrian accidents, which occurred at the subject intersection, were not speed related.

Tricia Bergau suggested that the raised crosswalk along Makawao Avenue be relocated away from the subject intersection to prevent its interference with vehicles turning left onto Makani Road. She noted that relocating the raised crosswalk away from the intersection would keep the children away from a busy intersection. She also noted that installing a left turn lane would assist with the movement of traffic.

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Sean Lester stated that the raised crosswalk is not of a sufficient height to reduce vehicular speed. He noted that the installation of a flashing light, and signs that identify penalties for traffic violations in school zones would assist in creating a greater awareness of pedestrian use in the area. In response to Mr. Lester's comment, the Director stated that the raised crosswalk is 5/8 inches above required vehicle tolerance levels.

Councilmember Kane asked why the lanes were narrowed moving away from the intersection instead of moving toward the intersection. The Director stated that the omission of striping along the traffic lane leading to the intersection was an oversight that should be corrected. He also noted that if the raised crosswalk is relocated, a sidewalk must be installed on the makai portion of Makawao Avenue to accommodate pedestrians.

Councilmember Pontanilla suggested the installation of a sidewalk and right-turn lane along Makawao Avenue onto Makani Road to assist with the flow of traffic and pedestrian safety.

There being no further questions or discussion, Chair Molina adjourned the inspection at 7:45 a.m.

APPROVED:



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MICHAEL J. MOLINA, Chair  
Public Works and Traffic Committee

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