



TOWN & UPCOUNTRY UPDATE

December 2021

State Infrastructure Site Visits

REPRESENTATIVE KYLE YAMASHITA

Aloha Neighbors,

This year, the Legislature did most of its work using various virtual platforms. People were able to access committee hearings via YouTube or on OLELO. Testifiers submitted testimonies over ZOOM.

Our work for this carry-over year will begin on January 19, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. My office will send you a 2022 legislative calendar when it becomes available. I look forward to working together to address the many issues facing our community.

It has been a long journey to recovery and as the year comes to an end, we look forward to a time when we can gather with friends and family to celebrate cultural festivities, birthdays, May Day programs, graduations and all events we have put on hold for too long.

My best wishes to you and your family for the coming holiday season.

Warm Regards,

Please assist us in our initiative to 'GO GREEN,' and send us your email address to receive newsletters by email.

Call: (808) 586-6330

Email: repyamashita@capitol.hawaii.gov



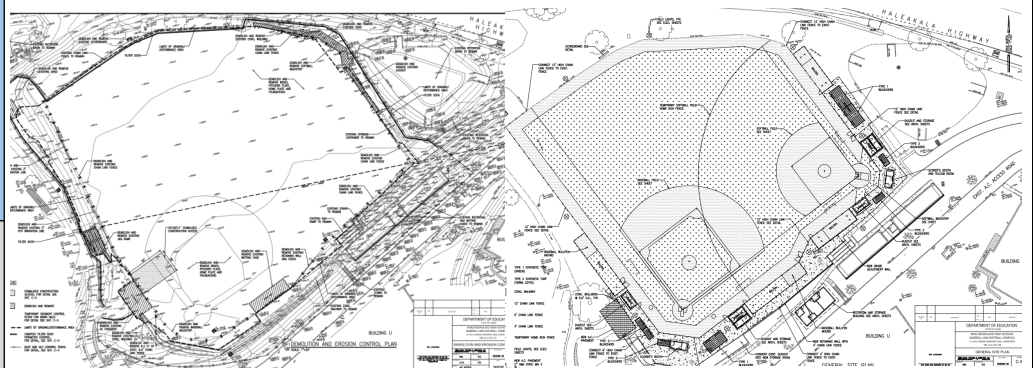
This past year, interim work was severely impacted with the surge of the Delta variant and the House Finance committee was unable to conduct site visits to all neighbor islands.

Site visits are very important because they determine the critical infrastructure priorities for the upcoming legislative session. During site visits we can observe the quality of state facilities and meet with state personnel to learn of their daily working conditions.

While complying with COVID mandates, I met with all the school principals in the 12th district to discuss current and future needs of the schools. Currently, each school have these on-going projects:

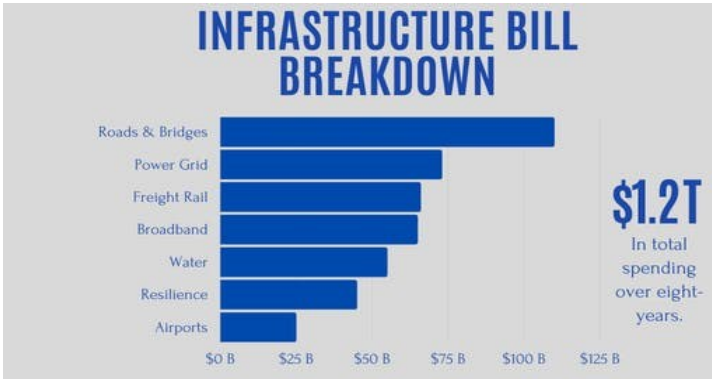
- * **Makawao Elementary School** — Covered Play Court
- * **Pukalani Elementary School** — Reroofing and Covered Walkways
- * **Kula Elementary School** — Reroofing
- * **Kalama Intermediate School** — Music Building
- * **Kekaulike High School** — Baseball & Softball Complex, Reroof, ADA Improvements.
- * **Makawao Library** — Expansion
- * **Keokea Project** — Ongoing Farming Project in partnership with Kula Elementary School.

Together with Randy Tanaka, Department of Education, Office of Facilities, we were able to visit Lahainaluna High School, Baldwin High School and the Kekaulike High School Performing Arts Center. To address the teacher shortage problem,



King Kekaulike High School
Schematic Plans for the Proposed Baseball & Softball Complex Project

A Federal Boost to Hawaii's Economy



Hawaii's infrastructure will receive a huge boost of \$2.8 billion from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act recently signed by President Joe Biden.

The State Department of Transportation will get more than \$1.5 billion to repair roads, bridges, and airports. A top priority will be to relocate oceanside roads and repair the top 50 bridges statewide.

County water and sewer systems are expected to get \$200 million to improve drinking water treatment, pipes and water storage tanks. Funds are also available for wastewater facilities and treatment systems.

The State Department of Transportation/Highways will also be working closely with the private sector to fund highway improvements near areas planned for affordable housing.

In lieu of a community meeting, on November 15th, Senator Lynn DeCoite and I hosted a virtual Town Hall meeting. We discussed how federal funding has boosted the economy and how these funds will impact the construction industry. We were able to hear from our constituents on their concerns related to Broadband access, property tax, the Tourism Accommodation Tax (TAT), teachers' salary and retention, and the overpopulation of Axis Deer on Maui and Molokai.

Photo Journal 2021 Legislative Session





Various Capital Improvement Projects Site Visits in 2021.

Representative Kyle Yamashita

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Maui County

CIP Funds Released by the Governor 2022-2023

Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) are bond funded critical infrastructure of the State— including highways, schools, airports, and harbors. These funds cannot be used for every day operations like unemployment insurance, general assistance, or other services.

District wide CIP	Description	CD FY22
Kahului Airport	Inbound Baggage Handling System Improvements.	\$1,800,000
Kekaulike High School	Design and construction for improvements to comply with current ADA standards.	\$2,500,000
Kalama Intermediate School	Construction to upgrade the fire alarm system.	\$55,000
Kanaio Resource Protection	Plans and construction of a fence to protect culturally sensitive areas and critical habitat around Pu'u Pimoe on Maui.	\$800,000
Kanaio Dry Forest Fence	Construction of fencing at Kanaio Natural Area Reserve to protect native species from hooved animals.	\$300,000
Hana Highway Rockfall Mitigation, Huelo to Hana	Design and construction for rockfall protection and slope stabilization at various locations along Hana Highway.	\$12,400,000