

From: ghillert@gmail.com [mailto:ghillert@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Gunnar Hillert
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2016 8:44 AM
To: General Plan; Planning Internet Mail
Subject: Proposal - Kailua-Kona - Hiona Street Extension

Aloha,

I hope this finds you well. 1 1/2 months ago, I wrote you about a planning proposal in Holualoa/Kailua-Kona, but unfortunately I never heard back. Assuming, that the email got lost along the way I am resending it.

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My wife, our 2 kids and I live up in Keōpū Mauka in Holualoa, near **Hiona St.** I have a proposal in regards to road infrastructure.

One major infrastructure concern we have (in case of e.g. natural disasters) is that for a stretch of 6 miles along 180/Mamalahoa Hwy there is no alternative (publicly) accessible route/interconnect towards 11/Queen Ka'ahumanu Hwy (between 190/Palani Rd intersection and Hualalai Rd intersection).

The only 2 options are Palani Rd or Hualalai Rd - both options take roughly 20min depending on traffic.

Looking at the map around us, I always wondered about **Hiona St.**

While it currently just traverses the sub-division (Keopu Heights), Hiona St. appears structurally like some of the other major connectors such as Hina Lani St. Also:

- It seems like Hiona St is a county-owned road
- The adjacent parcel with **TMK 750030230000 [1]** connects Hiona St all the way to Queen Ka'ahumanu Hwy down makai near the Lowe's Home Improvement store.
- That parcel is for sale right now - **ML 293933 [2]**

Therefore I have the following question:

Would it be desirable to connect Hiona St with Queen Ka'ahumanu Hwy?

Even though we are directly above Kona - it typically takes 20 minutes to reach down-town Kona. It would be almost ideal if that connection existed as it would allow:

- For first-time responders to be much faster in this mauka region of Holualoa
- Would alleviate some traffic on Palani Rd as well as 180/Mamalahoa Hwy
- Provide a critical back-up in case some sections of Mamalahoa Highway / 180 become impassable due to weather events etc.

I had checked with the public works department, but they don't have this extension on their radar, yet. Therefore I also wanted to address this question/proposal to you and hope this might be a infrastructure improvement project worthwhile supporting.

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Since I sent this I also talked some more with neighbors, apparently years ago there was some discussion around this.

Also, very long-time, it may even make sense to connect the extended Hiona St with Hienaloli Rd which intersects with Hualalai Rd. That way, critical infrastructure redundancy/backup is provided for 180/Mamalahoa Hwy.

I hope this proposal makes a lot of sense and I am looking forward to your response.

Mahalo!

Cheers,
Gunnar Hillert
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[1] http://qpublic9.qpublic.net/hi_hawaii_display.php?county=hi_hawaii&KEY=750030230000

[2] <http://www.alohaliving.com/search/details/?idxid=HawaiiInformationService&searchstyle=mlsnum&mlsnum1=293933&mlsnum2=&mlsnum3=&mlsnum4=&mlsnum5=&mlsnum6=&mlsnum7=&mlsnum8=&mlsnum9=&mlsnum10=&sorttype=price&sortdir=desc&resultview=list&linkmlsnum=293933>