



What's new in Kapolei

Projects are ramping up in the region

There's a buzz of activity in Kapolei with several notable projects under construction, and new retailers open for business.

East Kapolei

Two landmark projects in East Kapolei are moving forward at a fast clip — the Salvation Army's Ray & Joan Kroc Corps Community Center and the University of Hawaii West Oahu campus.

Kroc Center

This 200,000-square-foot community center, which will be the largest of its kind in Hawaii, is already more than halfway complete, and will be a magnet for people of all ages in West Oahu. They will have the use of conference and banquet rooms; worship and performing arts, athletic, aquatic, and health and wellness centers; a preschool; and dormitories for visiting teams and conference participants. A grand opening is planned for the end of January 2012.

University of Hawaii West Oahu (UHWO)

The foundation has been laid for several buildings and the walls are quickly rising for the classroom, laboratory and maintenance buildings. This fast pace of construction activity puts the university on track to open in fall 2012.

With this much-anticipated opening, UHWO will bring higher education to more people in Kapolei and the entire Leeward coast, who will now be able to pursue a full four-year college education closer to where they live.

City of Kapolei

Retail is still surging forward in the City of Kapolei, with new tenants at Kapolei Commons and the recent opening of a center for garden accents. An early childhood education center is also under construction in the urban core.



The Vitamin Shoppe

Kapolei Commons

The Vitamin Shoppe is the newest national retailer to join the 17 other tenants at this expanding lifestyle shopping center. Next in line is local health food store Down To Earth, which is scheduled to open in early July 2011.



Kroc Center | photo courtesy of Ed Gross / The Image Group

Tropical Garden Accents

Tropical Garden Accents, which is the state's largest importer of pottery and garden accents, opened a new 55,000-square-foot Pottery Outlet at 91-1799 Franklin D. Roosevelt Avenue. The Outlet features a huge selection of pottery and ceramic fountains discounted up to 50 percent off retail price.



Tropical Garden Accents

Cole Academy

The family owned and operated Cole Academy provides early childhood education and care for children ages 6 weeks through five years. The academy's new Kapolei facility, which is expected to open in late summer 2011, will offer an academic and social curriculum targeted at kindergarten readiness, and includes early reading, math, science, music, foreign language, and infant-toddler sign language. Free applications for enrollment are available online at www.thecoleacademy.com or by calling 677-4488. The academy is located on Manawai Street next to the Kapolei Regional Library.

Kalaeloa

Federal law enforcement will soon be a major presence in Kalaeloa.

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

The FBI is building a 150,000-square-foot office complex on 10 acres at 91-1300 Enterprise Road. The building will serve as the Honolulu FBI Field Office, overseeing all FBI operations in Hawaii, as well as Guam, Saipan and American Samoa. The field office is scheduled to open during the third quarter of 2012.



University of Hawaii West Oahu

Kapolei Interchange Complex update

Mark this date: Monday, May 16. On that day, motorists will be able to get onto the new H-1 westbound on-ramp from Makakilo Drive. A little further down by the Wet 'n' Wild water park, H-1 motorists will be able to exit the freeway via an off-ramp connecting to Farrington Highway going towards Kalaeloa Boulevard.

The Wakea Street eastbound ramps and extension to Farrington Highway are still scheduled for an August opening.