

“Bike/Pedestrian Path Proposal for HPPOA Board”

Proposal: On January 16, 2013, the Path Committee submitted a proposal to the HPPOA Board to develop a bike/pedestrian path on Paradise Avenue, from Highway 130 to Railroad Ave. (1.75 mi.) The proposal would make a walking and biking (one-way for bikes) lane approximately 5 ft wide on the Hilo side of Paradise by moving the striping over 2.5 ft. closer to the Pahoia side. This would create a 20 ft wide road that would “match” the lower road measurements below Railroad Ave. This lane proposal is the first step in extending a safe pathway along Paradise Drive from the ocean to Highway 130.

Cost: This proposal would cost HPPOA approximately \$10K, which includes materials, machinery, labor and signage to identify the lane. Cost includes setback of mailboxes 1 ft. at three locations on upper Paradise Dr. Volunteer labor and equipment, primarily from the Path Committee, would save the Association between \$6K and \$7K from the total cost of the proposal.

Summary: This proposal is meant to increase pedestrian and bike safety. Presently, we have only 2.5 ft wide paved shoulders on both sides of upper Paradise Dr. that are very narrow for a person or bike. Areas beyond the paved shoulder are largely irregular and unsafe. The Path Committee feels the HPPOA liability for injury to a biker or pedestrian is lessened by having a clearly marked, wider non-motorized lane on the Hilo side of Paradise Dr. The cost of \$10K for increasing the safety of bikers and walkers in that area is a good deal.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! Please contact your HPPOA representative or the HPPOA office to voice your support or concerns. It is anticipated the HPPOA Board will vote on this proposal in their February meeting on 2-20-13.