



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

News Release

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**GROUNDBREAKING HELD FOR NEW PARKING GARAGE AT
HONOLULU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

***New 1,800-stall parking structure to be built on open-air parking lot
between overseas and inter-island terminals***

HONOLULU – Governor Linda Lingle and state Department of Transportation officials today broke ground for a new 1,800-stall parking garage at Honolulu International Airport.

The \$39.2 million project will construct a third airport garage on the site of the current open-air parking lot between the inter-island and overseas terminals (Lot "A").

Completion of the new parking structure is slated for December 2008. Honolulu International Airport currently has 4,500 parking stalls.

"The new parking structure is part of the state's multi-year plan to modernize our airports on all islands," said Governor Lingle. "We believe this new airport parking garage will alleviate the parking shortage for both the traveling public and airport employees, as well as help make the airport more efficient and convenient for residents and visitors."

The new eight-story garage will be connected to the inter-island terminal garage on the top level by a bridge that will carry two lanes of traffic, as well as walkways for pedestrians.

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“The inter-island parking area tends to fill up the quickest, so having the new parking structure connect with the inter-island garage will provide easy access to the inter-island terminal,” said state transportation director Barry Fukunaga.

The state DOT earlier this year selected contractor Dick Pacific Construction Co. to design and build the new 1,800-stall garage, with the project architect being RIM Architects.

Preliminary construction work will affect a portion of parking lot “A” beginning this week, when the mauka portion of the lot will be closed, resulting in the loss of about 80 public parking stalls. On October 1, 2007, all of parking lot “A” will be closed, along with Ala Auana Road, which runs between Lot A and the former Bank of Hawaii Building. This road closure will allow for the conversion of an existing employee parking lot into a public parking lot (see Parking Lot A Traffic Control Plan).

“Converting the existing employee parking lot into public parking will enable us to limit the loss of parking stalls during the construction work to 45 stalls,” Fukunaga said. “During the construction period, public parking will remain tight, but by limiting the loss of public stalls and continuing our valet parking operation, we hope to minimize the impact on the traveling public.”

The DOT is working with its parking operator AMPCO System Parking to relocate the displaced employees to other employee lots.

The closing of Ala Auana Road will eliminate a shortcut that many drivers use as a quick exit from the traffic fronting the Overseas Terminal. In order to leave the terminal area once Ala Auana is closed, drivers will be required to travel the length of the Overseas Terminal before heading for the H-1 Freeway, Nimitz Highway, Paiea or Aolele streets.

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