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GOVERNOR LINGLE RELEASES \$7.1 MILLION FOR KONA AIRPORT PARKING EXPANSION

HONOLULU – Governor Linda Lingle has released \$7,105,000 to provide an additional 563 public and employee parking spaces at Kona International Airport.

“To support Hawai‘i air travel, we need to invest in the modernization of our airports statewide,” said Governor Lingle. “At Kona International Airport, the addition of new parking will improve efficiency and convenience for the traveling public as well as those who work at the airport.”

The funds will be used to expand the new public parking lot (formerly the original employee parking lot) to the east by adding 392 public parking stalls. This phase of the project includes resurfacing the main terminal parking lot and entry area, and other related improvements such as landscaping, lighting, installing concrete curbs and wheelstops, and pedestrian walkways.

This phase of the project will also include expanding the Road N lot, which was recently designated for employee parking, by an additional 171 stalls and enclosing the lot with guard rails. The Road N lot was recently expanded by 100 stalls. A total of 534 stalls are planned for this employee parking lot, which will be secured with an electronic controlled gate.

Upon completion of this project, Kona International Airport will offer 1,813 public and employee parking stalls – 1,279 for public use and 534 reserved for airport and airline employees.

The parking improvements are part of the Lingle-Aiona Administration’s 12-year, \$2.3 billion Airports Modernization Plan to upgrade Hawai‘i’s airports. The comprehensive plan, developed in conjunction with the Airlines Committee of Hawai‘i and other airport and visitor industry partners, involves implementing projects to improve passenger service, increase security and operational efficiencies, increase the airports’ capacity and enhance convenience. The improvements are being paid for entirely by airport fees and federal funds, and do not utilize State General Funds.

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For more information, contact:

Brennon Morioka
Director, Dept. of Transportation
Phone: (808) 587-2150

Lenny Klompus
Senior Advisor – Communications
Phone: (808) 586-7708

Russell Pang
Chief of Media Relations

Phone: (808) 586-0043