January 31, 2022
Menehune Road Update

To view, visit www.kauai.gov/kema and click on "Waimea Valley Rockslide.**

IMPORTANT HAZARD NOTICE

Please DO NOT cross or approach the rockfall site if closed. Doing so could result in severe injury or death.

Road Closure and Slope Stabilization

New updates: Today, Jan. 31, HiTech, the County of Kaua‘i’s contractor, installed erosion control measures prescribed by Geolabs – COK’s contracted geotechnical engineering firm.

Road closures are scheduled Monday through Friday, Jan. 31 to Feb. 4, from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. No road closures are scheduled for the weekend. Weekday road closures are necessary to accommodate slope and bridgework.

The Public Works Roads Division provided road closure signage, a messaging board, traffic safety barriers, and personnel on-site (as needed) to assist with access control.

Menehune Road is now open to regular vehicle traffic during non-working hours. However, ongoing temporary road closures may be needed for the future, as work on the slope may be necessary until permanent measures are designed and constructed.

Waimea Swinging Bridge

New updates: Starting today, Jan. 31, Kaikor Construction – the County’s contractor for bridge repair work – began construction for additional safety measures to stabilize the bridge further before temporary repairs start. The work includes addressing the bridge tower base and installing two new kickers that span across the road, from the tip of each tower on the bridge to the rock wall. This work is scheduled from Monday to Friday. Temporary repairs are anticipated to start soon after to restore pedestrian access.

Continuing work: Given the historic nature of the bridge, we expect the permanent repair project will require special order materials; thus, it will not occur for several months. We will continue to work with Makaweli residents on their continued needs. If you require assistance, please contact KEMA at the numbers listed below.

Refuse Service

New updates: Effective Monday, Feb. 7, the County will revert to the regular Monday morning refuse collection service. If you currently don’t have a refuse cart and would like to continue receiving County refuse collection service, please contact the Division of Solid Waste Management at 808-241-4840.
The next refuse collection is currently scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 1. Residents are asked to leave their bagged trash in their refuse carts on Monday, Jan. 31, for early-morning pickup on Tuesday. To ensure efficient pickup, please double bag your household trash and place it in your County-issued refuse carts. For those without refuse carts, please leave your bagged household waste in a covered trash receptacle at the side of the road immediately adjacent to your driveway. Trash should be double-bagged in the event manual loading into a truck becomes necessary. Trash receptacles must not exceed 50 pounds, and more than one covered receptacle may be used. Bulky items, green waste, and loose trash will not be collected at this time.

Food Distribution, Wellness Checks, Needs Assessments

Families are reporting that they have food and supplies for the time being. Supply deliveries will occur, however, on a case-by-case basis.

The wellness checks and needs assessments team is now led by the Hawai‘i Foodbank – Kaua‘i Branch and Pastor Darryl Kua of the Westside Christian Center Assembly of God. They will be conducting periodic needs assessments, and run food and supplies to the affected residents based on these check-ins.

Panini Road Emergency Access Route

The State Department of Land and Natural Resources’ (DLNR) alternate emergency access route from Waimea Canyon Drive, known as Panini Road, will remain open to local residents and first responders via 4 x 4 usage only. Motorists are urged to drive slowly and cautiously through the area.

Important Contacts

- If you require assistance during work hours, you may call the Kaua‘i Emergency Management Agency (KEMA) at 808-241-1800.
- If after working hours, call Kaua‘i Police Dispatch at 808-241-1711.
- If this is an emergency and you require immediate assistance, call 911.
- For kupuna assistance, please contact the Agency on Elderly Affairs at (808) 241-4470.
- For all other assistance, including utility, postal service, and school/education needs, please contact KEMA at 808-241-1800, and someone will help coordinate with the appropriate official.