News Release
For Immediate Release: March 16, 2021

COUNTY OF KAUA’I
KAUA’I EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
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(808) 241-1800

4 p.m., March 16, Update: Officials continue recovery efforts as single lane of Kūhiō Highway reopens for emergency access

With Tuesday’s reopening of a single lane on Kūhiō Highway for emergency access, officials have mobilized assets into the isolated North Shore community and will continue recovery efforts while long-term repairs to the Hanalei Hillside remain ongoing.

Kūhiō Highway at Hanalei Hill: The Hawai‘i Department of Transportation (HDOT) will continue a single lane for emergency access on Kūhiō Highway at the Hanalei Hill on Wednesday. This access has been established for critical services only. HDOT officials will continue to work on a plan to provide public access later this week. To ensure overall safety, there will be continuous security check points on both sides of the slide. Updates will be provided as more information becomes available.

Other Current Road Closures:

- Kūhiō Highway, between Kolopua Apartments and Hanalei Plantation Road, remains closed out of an abundance of caution. This is the road above the Hanalei Hill site. HDOT officials have installed systems to monitor any movement in the road.

- One lane of Kūhiō Highway at mile marker 4.5 near Waikoko is currently open to alternating traffic.
**Refuse Service:** The Solid Waste Division will resume normal household refuse collection services to North Shore residents starting Thursday, March 18. This means residents will have refuse collection on Thursday and Friday this week, as normally scheduled.

Residents are asked to place bagged refuse in their carts the night prior. Officials will not be picking up loose waste or bulky waste. For questions or more information, please call the Solid Waste Division at 241-4841.

**North Shore Pharmacy:** Affected Hanalei to Hā’ena residents needing to fulfill medical prescriptions may call the North Shore Pharmacy at (808) 828-1844. A pharmacist will be available to deliver prescriptions to residents on Wednesday, March 17, at 2 p.m., at the Black Pot Beach Park.

**Weather Update:** A High Surf Advisory is in effect for all East-facing shores of Kaua’i through 6 p.m. Wednesday. Strong breaking waves, shore break, and strong longshore and rip currents are expected. All weather and ocean advisories may be extended, dropped, or modified as conditions develop. For up-to-date information about Kaua’i ocean conditions and ocean safety, please speak to a county lifeguard, visit [www.hawaiibeachsafety.com](http://www.hawaiibeachsafety.com), or call the Ocean Safety Bureau at 241-4984. For weather updates, call the National Weather Service automated weather line at 245-6001, or visit the NWS website, [www.weather.gov/hfo](http://www.weather.gov/hfo).

**Damage Assessments:** The county is continuing to conduct assessments of storm-affected areas across the island. If your home suffered damages due to the March flooding, please visit [www.kauai.gov/kema](http://www.kauai.gov/kema) and click on the green link “March 2021 Rain Damage/Flood Reporting” to complete a form. The information you provide will help the County of Kaua’i understand the scope of residential damage and impacts to our community. Damage reports may be used to determine whether our jurisdiction qualifies for any state and federal assistance. Affected parties will still need to file claims with their insurance companies for residential damage and personal property loss. Completion of a damage report does not constitute an application for assistance or relief programs. For assistance on how to fill out the form, you may call KEMA at 241-1800.
For up-to-date and ongoing information for residents affected by the recent severe weather, especially those who reside in the isolated North Shore areas, please visit www.kauai.gov and click on the blue icon “March 2021 Flooding.”

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