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News Release

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OED launches new website for transportation options on Kaua'i

LĪHU'E – The County of Kaua'i's Office of Economic Development announced the launch of a new website aimed at informing both visitors and residents of the various transportation options available on Kaua'i.

The new website, GetAroundKauai.com, was created in response to the current rental car shortage on Kaua'i, but has a broader goal of providing people with the resources they need to make more sustainable transportation choices.

The Office of Economic Development, in collaboration with the Hawai'i Tourism Authority, set out to implement actions in the [Kaua'i Destination Management Action Plan](#), specifically Action E: Encourage low-impact green rides to improve the visitor experience, reduce island traffic, increase small business opportunities, and meet climate action goals; and Action G: Develop educational materials for visitors and new residents to have respect for our local cultural values.

Visitors to Kaua'i often rely on a rental car as their primary mode of transportation. With the current shortage of rental cars, many visitors are now seeking alternative modes of travel. Up until recently, the transportation options were limited and there was not a central place to find them.

GetAroundKauai.com fills that void and will be regularly managed, updated, and improved as more transportation options become available.

“During the pandemic, our residents were given a glimpse of what life is like without the influx cars on our roads and there’s no denying how much traffic had improved,” said Mayor Derek S. K. Kawakami. “As we continue to recover, we see the opportunity to do better in managing visitor impact and that includes implementing transportation mode change on our island. We are grateful for our partners with Hawai’i Tourism Authority, Kaua’i Visitors Bureau, and the transportation industry in the launch of this new website which will be a valuable resource for our community.”

The intent of this new website is to show visitors that they can navigate our island without renting a personal vehicle every day of their trip, and it will continue to be improved for residents who are exploring other modes of travel as well.

“Our goal is that this new website will serve as a resource to connect travelers with transportation alternatives, such as airport shuttles, ride-shares and bike rentals,” said Nalani Brun, Director of the Office of Economic Development. “This rental car crisis can become an opportunity for us shift away from the mind-set that the only way to get around Kaua’i is with a personal vehicle.”

The website includes an overview of transportation options, a map with Kaua’i bus stops and routes, regional walking guides, and other tips for how to get around Kaua’i without a car. Weekly blog posts will educate readers on transportation related topics, such as how to reserve an airport shuttle, parking permit requirements for Koke’e State Park, and details regarding the Hanalei Hill access schedule.

The website also includes a section on “How to Travel with Aloha,” which provides tips and recommendations from a local perspective.

“By providing visitors with this resource, we are connecting them to information they need to prepare for their trip and be a respectful visitor while on Kaua’i,” said Brun.

“Educating visitors about traveling responsibly is key to addressing tourism’s impacts and enhancing the well-being of Kaua’i’s communities,” said John De Fries, president and CEO of the Hawai’i Tourism Authority. “We encourage travelers to utilize this comprehensive website when planning their

trips, and are sharing it widely with our Global Marketing Team and visitor industry partners to amplify the information.”

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