

News Release

For Immediate Release: January 4, 2022

COUNTY OF KAUA'I DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TROY TANIGAWA, ACTING COUNTY ENGINEER (808) 241-4993

4:30 PM UPDATE: Menehune Road remains closed near Waimea Swinging Bridge; emergency shelter opens at Waimea Neighborhood Center

WAIMEA – Menehune Road remains closed near the Waimea Swinging Bridge until further notice due to a landslide that occurred Tuesday morning. The American Red Cross will be open an emergency shelter at the Waimea Neighborhood Center at 5 p.m.

Public Works Roads crews were on site today to attempt to clear the roadway of debris, but work ceased when additional materials became loose. Rockfall mitigation contractors are expected on site Wednesday to begin slope stabilization work.

"We are working diligently to open this roadway and restore utilities to affected residents as soon as possible, but safety is our highest priority," said Mayor Derek S.K. Kawakami. "We have multiple agencies working together at this time. We wish to thank the Department of Public Works crews, Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative, Kaua'i Department of Water, American Red Cross, and our first responders for assisting in this effort. Additionally, we thank the residents for their patience and cooperation while work continues."

Affected residents are urged to avoid the dangerous conditions. Anyone needing emergency access during the closure should contact 911.

There is no timeline yet on when the road will be reopened. Updates will be provided as information becomes available.

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