S. Kona police station moves forward

LAND SWAP DEAL TO BETWEEN STATE, COUNTY TO BE DISCUSSED FRIDAY

BY ROBYN COMBARDI
WEST HAWAII TODAY

The move is in the creation of a permanent police station in South Kona will take place sometime Friday morning in Honalo. That's when the state Board of Land and Natural Resources will meet to discuss a recommendation of land under the Kona Civic Center in Captain Cook.

If all goes as planned, the Land Board will accept more than an acre from the county, consolidate it with the five-acre Civic Center, and then either off of it and recommend the county return it to the county for the site of the new public safety complex.

“The Legislature, (Land Board) and governor have always been very gracious about doing these kinds of things quickly so we can move forward,” said South Kona Conrad Uehara Fendi Roda.

The Hawaii County Council Wednesday unanimously approved a resolution introduced by Roda calling for the county to receive the vacant property as well as the fire station to the state in order to start the process.

The substitution would replace the former Kona Police Station now being used as a barracks. The substitution would ensure that four officers would always be on patrol in the area between Manele State Park and Honalo.

Presently, there are only two police officers patrolling the 135 square miles of South Kona. Added to that, an officer that makes an arrest is likely backed up by the other officer, and that requires an officer from North Kona to be pulled from his patrol to take an officer able to respond to other emergencies.

South Kona police also face the time-consuming challenge of driving on narrow two-lane highways to remote areas such as Mokule and Honokoa. It often takes an hour or longer for police to respond to an incident in those shoreline valleys. Both South Kona officers are in the mauka area. Fewer than 100 Kona is the only.

PRISM Project

Program teaches hands-on Hawaii-specific science

BY NANCY ODIN LAKER
WEST HAWAII TODAY

HONOLULU — A survey undertaken by AARP has verified what most already suspected — Big Island residents are more worried about a looming health care crisis than anywhere else in the state.

Almost half — 49 percent of those respondents who have traveled off-island to receive health care. The new survey of more than 700 residents who were not available in their communities. Surveyed by 313 respondents was taken both in Hilo, 60 percent of whom were older than 65, and in Honolulu, 39 percent.

Kona residents were most likely to say that Hawaii's health care is in a state of crisis, with 20 percent of Kona residents, 24 percent of Hilo residents, 18 percent of Maui residents, 9 percent of Kauai residents and 1 percent of Oahu residents agreeing with that statement.

Nearly three-quarters, 73 percent of all state residents, are worried about being able to afford long-term care services in the setting of their choice, according to a survey. It found that 4 percent of those services who stay in their homes or communities, according to the survey.

The survey asked people about health care services that they would be interested in large numbers. AARP Hawaii's pause to surveying fine for long-term health care. The state’s largest, residents in all areas of the state, according to the survey.

While it is easy to see in large numbers.

The telephone survey of 1,044 respondents was undertaken between Dec. 20 and Jan. 20 by Roper Research, with a margin of error of 3.1 percent, for the total telephone sample. The telephone survey will be longer than other Hawaii residents.

AARP is holding a "Caring: Rock Rally" at the state Capitol from 1-3 p.m. Tuesday, March 18.
We’re learning about what are just learning the basics. Better than regular science in his hand, examining its their classroom, Kearns said. They are just learning the basics. What we’re learning about, what they do, those. We’re learning really cool stuff.”

Naia North, 9, agreed, claiming it was much more fun to touch and look at the creatures than just hearing about them from their teachers. “Usually you don’t learn by listening. Just by seeing and doing stuff,” she said. PRISM: Curriculum designed to be easy to use, available for other teachers on Web site.

The program is not only a benefit to students and teachers, but also the fellows. Working with the students has improved her communication skills, Gaudioso said. “As scientists and graduate students, we’re always speaking with our colleagues,” she said. “It’s been great taking what I know and putting it in a language for a different audience, putting it in English.”

This project is funded by a three-year grant from the U.S. National Science Foundation, and Kearns said they are looking for other outreach to expand the program. The goal is also to expand to the other Hawaiian Islands. PRISM consists of 42 graduate student fellows who work directly with 32 different teachers on six schools. “Having Marine here is a great asset. She has so much knowledge on the subject, and the kids really love her,” said teacher Ordrech, third-grade teacher at Waikoloa Elementary. “This program allows kids to get excited about science.”