BUILDING INDUCIONALIA DECEMBER 2017/\$5.95

# Dean Uchida

BIA-Hawaii's new president takes on a serious dilemma: the lack of housing

INSIDE THE BIA Painting & Finishing TOP 2017 PROJECTS

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#### **COFFEE BREAK**

s we rush toward a new year, Oahu's elevated rail, Consolidated Rental Car Facilities (CONRACS) at the Honolulu and Kahului airports, a massive solar energy-on-demand farm on Kauai and major residential developments at Hoopili and Koa Ridge represent billions of dollars in contracts and jobs for 2018, and far beyond. They are among the top projects in Hawaii construction, according to our report by Assistant Editor Brett Alexander-Estes.



g to our report by Assistant Editor Brett Alexander-Estes. Also in this issue, we talk to Dean Uchida, the new president of the Building



Dean Uchida, 2018 president of the BIA-Hawaii

on the BIA's main topic—houselessness—are CEO Gladys Marrone and 2017 President Evan Fujimoto. Is Hawaii's infrastructure really as bad as everyone seems to think it is? The state has been rated by some Mainland pollsters as the worst in the U.S. Check the report inside by Associate Editor Brandon Bosworth on the

Industry Association of Hawaii, about BIA's

goals for the upcoming year. Also weighing in

conditions of the Islands' roads, bridges and dams. What does a brand new \$14 million mansion look like? To get all the details on the sprawling estate, *Building Industry Hawaii* spoke with the general contractor and the

architect of the hillside home on Kauai. Popular trends in paints and finishings range from self-priming products to stained concrete, according to our report.

A hui hou,

david@tradepublishing.com

#### **SETTING IT STRAIGHT**

In the November issue, the conceptual renderings of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority's Mayor Wright Homes redevelopment were provided by Torti Gallas + Partners.





Publisher KEN BERRY

Editor DAVID PUTNAM Assistant Editor BRETT ALEXANDER-ESTES

Associate Editor BRANDON BOSWORTH

Contributing Editor

Construction Editor ALFONSO RIVERA

Creative Director DAVIN IYAMATSU

Controller TRACY KALAHIKI

Operations Manager PIILANI KAALEKAHI

Advertising Director **BARRY REDMAYNE** 

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> Art Director URSULA SILVA

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Circulation Director CHELSE TAKAHASHI

Administrative Assistants LENA JAMESON, ABIGAIL EMBERLIN

Production Management DEAN ONISHI, CHRIS CASTELLI, AUSTIN POPA

ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER Barry Redmayne ASSISTANT PUBLISHER Karen Berry CEO & MANAGING PARTNER Ken Berry PRESIDENT & CHAIRMAN Carl Hebenstreit



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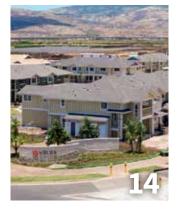






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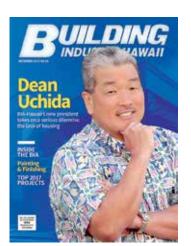
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### On the cover

Dean Uchida, BIA-Hawaii 2018 President Photo by Anjj Lee Design by Ursula A. Silva

# **COMING IN JANUARY**

*Building Industry Hawaii* offers on update on **Military Projects**, with details about current and upcoming construction jobs. We also will have the **CCPI directory**.





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#### **DECEMBER 1**

#### 2017 Design & Construction Industry Holiday Party

The Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii) invites Hawaii's builders to its annual gala sponsored by BIA-Hawaii and the local chapters of the National Kitchen & Bath Association (NKBA), American Society of Interior Designers (ASID Hawaii) and the American Institute of Architects (AIA Honolulu).

5:30 p.m. (no-host cocktails/reception); 6:30 (buffet dinner/program); 7:30-10:30 (dancing/celebrating). Koolau Ballrooms, 45-550 Kionaole Rd., Kaneohe. RSVP only by link at biahawaii.org. Fee: \$50 per person. Free parking.

#### **DECEMBER 2**

#### **Lighting Audits to Lighting Retrofits**

The University of Hawaii at Manoa Outreach College and Hawaii Energy present a one-day seminar for maintenance staff, facility managers and owners, and working professionals that shows how to successfully conduct an in-depth lighting audit and retrofit. Instructor Stan Walerczyk, principal of Lighting Wizards, covers the latest retrofit techniques and products to augment the BOC lighting section that can reduce lighting electricity costs by over 60 percent.

9 a.m.-5 p.m. Room 12, Krauss Hall, UH-Manoa. Go to outreach.hawaii.edu/ professional or email profprog@hawaii. edu or call 956-9249 to register. Fee: \$349; \$49 with ETF tuition assistance and Hawaii Energy subsidy.

#### **DECEMBER 2, 9**

#### Improving Productivity and Managing Project Costs (STP Unit 5)

The General Contractors Association of Hawaii (GCA of Hawaii) presents the Associated General Contractors of America's Supervisory Training Program (STP), designed and field-tested for contractors to help them effectively manage people, time, equipment and materials. Unit 5—Improving Productivity and Managing Project Costs (2015 Edition)—is the fifth in STP's six-course program. Instructor Glenn Nohara, Genba Hawaii Inc. president, covers construction estimates, managing project and labor costs, working with project partners and more. Includes manual and lunch. Certificate available after completion of course. Courses and units need not be taken in order.

8 a.m.-4 p.m. (daily). GCA Conference Room, 1065 Ahua St. Limited seating; first-come, first-served. To register go to info@gcahawaii.org or gcahawaii.org, or call 833-1681. Fee: GCA of Hawaii members \$295; nonmembers \$395. No refunds after Nov. 17. Replacements accepted.

#### **DECEMBER 4-7**

#### OSHA 511-OS&H Standards for the General Industry

Offered by BIA-Hawaii and UC-San Diego's OSHA Training Institute. Fourday OSH certificate course covers the scope and application of the OSHA General Industry Standards, including safety and health protocols in real-world situations and leading job site hazards identified by OSHA. Instruction by Hawaii health and safety managers Joaquin M. Diaz and Tristan Aldeguer covers general industry terms and how to determine the applicable OSHA General Industry Standards policies, procedures and regulations. Various credits available. All materials provided on the first day of class.

8 a.m.-4 p.m. (daily). CTC Pacific, 94-487 Akoki St., Waipahu. Register at osha.ucsd.edu. For more info, go to biahawaii.org, call 800-358-9206 or visit osha.ucsd.edu. Fee: \$750. No refunds after Nov. 20.

#### **DECEMBER** 8

#### BIA-Hawaii Annual Installation Banquet

Bid aloha to current President Evan

Fujimoto and welcome 2018 President Dean Uchida of SSFM International Inc. at BIA-Hawaii's annual ceremony and banquet. Awards will be presented to Associate, Builder, Supplier, Specialty Contractor, and Affiliate of the Year. Enjoy live music, no-host cocktails with pupus, and dinner.

5:30 p.m. (cocktails); 6:30-9 (dinner and awards). The Modern Honolulu Ballrooom, 1775 Ala Moana Blvd. RSVP/register with payment at biahawaii.org or contact Cathleen Langin at clm@biahawaii.org. Fee: \$150 per person. Table sponsorships available.

#### **DECEMBER 9**

#### **AIA Architectural Walking Tour**

On every second and fourth Saturday of the month, the American Institute of Architects Honolulu Chapter (AIA Honolulu) walking tours are led by a Hawaii architect or architectural historian who relates the tales and building history of Honolulu's downtown district. Tour groups must be 4-12 people.

9-11:30 a.m. AIA Honolulu Center for Architecture, 828 Fort Street Mall, Suite 100. Register with payment at contact@aiahonolulu.org until Dec. 8. For more info call 628-7243, or go to aiahonolulu.org and contact@ aiahonolulu.org. Fee: \$15 per person.

#### DECEMBER 11, 13, 16, 18, 20

#### 40-HR Safety Hazard Awareness Training for Contractors

This BIA-Hawaii five-day training session provides a Site Safety & Health Officer (SSHO) with the additional certification required by the NAVFAC UFGS 1.6.1.1.1. Also covers the EM-385. Industry/academic credentials required. Disc with EM-385 manual

## OSHA EXTENDS REPORTING DEADLINE

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has extended by two weeks, to Dec. 15, the deadline that employers must electronically report injury and illness data through the Injury Tracking Application (ITA).

The new electronic reporting system was launched on Aug. 1 and the original date for compliance was Dec. 1. The rule requires certain employers to electronically submit injury and illness information they are already required to keep under existing OSHA regulations.

For more information, visit www.osha.gov.

included. Certification provided after successful testing.

7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. (daily). CTC-Pacific, 94-487 Akoki St., Waipahu. Online registration at biahawaii.org. For more info, contact Barbara Nishikawa at 629-7505. Fee: BIA-Hawaii members \$350; nonmembers \$475; \$237.50 with available ETF funding.

#### **DECEMBER 14**

#### YAF Pau Hana: Tchin Tchin!

Get a heads' up on your professional life in 2018 with presenter Vanessa Stockton and network with your colleagues at AIA-Honolulu's YAF Pau Hana. YAF Honolulu welcomes professionals who are nearly licensed, newly licensed, and out to 10 years of licensure.

5:30-7:30 p.m. Tchin Tchin!, 39 N. Hotel St., Honolulu. Register in advance until Dec. 14 at yaf.aia.honolulu@gmail. com. Free.

#### **DECEMBER 14**

#### **NAWIC General Membership Meeting**

This National Association of Women in Construction monthly dinner and membership meeting celebrates the season with heavy pupus, a glass of wine or champagne, networking and door prizes.

5 p.m. HASR Bistro, 31 Pauahi St. RSVP to Lenie Malapit at EMalapit@ ssshinc.com. Fee: \$45.

#### **JANUARY 27**

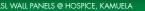
#### Practical Energy Management for Buildings and Facilities

The UH-Manoa Outreach College and Hawaii Energy present a one-day course for facility, plant, financial and energy managers that shows how to optimize energy usage in buildings and facilities to mitigate environmental affects and reduce costs. Instructor and engineer Rory S. Reiley covers troubleshooting existing systems, effective equipment operation, building energy assessments, benchmarking and more.

8 a.m.-4 p.m. Room 12, Krauss Hall, UH-Manoa. Register by Jan. 18. To register, call 956-9249 or email profprog@ hawaii.edu. Fee: \$300; \$49 with ETF and Hawaii Energy tuition subsidy. For subsidy form, go to https://labor.hawaii. gov and submit by Jan. 14.

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# Aloha to a Great Year and to New Friends

s 2017 speeds to a stop, I couldn't help a rearview-mirror glance back at the people I wrote about in *Building Industry Hawaii* this year, and what I learned from them. Thanks to each.

The year began with a column about **Wayne Kawano**, who was about to retire after 17 years heading the Cement & Concrete Products Industry of Hawaii. He offered a tip of the hard hat to the ancient Romans who built cement structures that survive until today: "Those Romans and their volcanic pumice, that's what we try to emulate today." As remarkable as the Romans were, Wayne's description of new, mad-scientist advances in technology blew my mind, including cement that dries because of a "chemical reaction." So if you're building a pier, you can pour cement that dries underwater.

In February, Jock Sutherland, winner of the 1967 Duke Kahanamoku Invitational surf contest, among other prestigious championships of that golden era, compared surfing and roofing: "There's an element of danger to both. I like



Shorty Kuhn of Island Ready-Mix

working with surfers (on a roof) because they know where their feet are and what they're doing ... there's a sense of balance."

Every time I hear news about the Honolulu rail project, I feel better knowing Glenn Nohara is involved. I spoke with him for the March issue, not long after he joined the HART board following a long engineering career: "This is a very difficult, complex project. From my experience, it's probably the hardest project anybody has ever worked on." Which is something considering Glenn was involved in both the Reef Runway and H-3 tunnels projects.

In April, **Peter Dawson** of Sunburst Designs declared "the age of Edison is dead." That's because of the newest lighting revolution. The LED market in 2016 accounted for \$26 billion, and is expected to grow to \$54 billion by 2022.

In May, Shorty Kuhn of Island Ready-Mix continued my cement education, and now I can't help seeing bartenders and cement pourers in a similar light. "We probably have a thousand different mixes," Shorty said.

You've heard the term "flying by the seat of the pants?" In June, heavy equipment operator **Don Macfarlane** described driving by the seat of his pants, literally: "To run a big piece of equipment, you have to feel it in your butt. When you're on the machine ... your butt starts to hold on to this thing when you sense you're about to tip over."

In July, architect **Bill Brooks** of Ferraro Choi described a surprising LEED strategy: "What we're doing is going back to passive architectural strategies that were commonplace before electricity. In the 1940s and '50s they came up with cheap electricity and relatively cheap air conditioning, and people forgot how to design a building without those things. ... Before that they did a bunch things we don't do anymore because we have artificial ways of keeping people cool. ... Think about it, how many of our most beloved buildings were designed before commercial air conditioning and lighting?"

I met one of the coolest couples, Brian Joy and Bonnie Cooper of Big Rock Manufacturing, for the August issue. Their specialty is building veneers that look like real lava rock because they're made from molds of real rock. Then there are garden rocks. Brian was helping a friend at actor Tom Selleck's home back in the "Magnum, PI" days, and there was a perfectly shaped small boulder. He made a mold. "The Selleck Boulder is still on our list," Bonnie said.

Most of us think we're walking around on solid ground, but Damien Enright knows better. In the September issue, the president of Kelikai Inc. described Hawaii's layers of dirt and sand, clay and coral, karst caves and lava rock: "We have some very complex soils."



Big Rock Manufacturings' moss rock veneer and waterfall at Ala Moana Center.

Robert Marcos, a wood cabinetmaker, in October described his specialization in historic metal restoration: "Metal in Hawaii requires attention because salt is always doing its magic. ... Quality, that's what restoration takes. ... If you're going to do this kind of work, you have to be committed to restoring, not replacing or changing. There's a big difference."

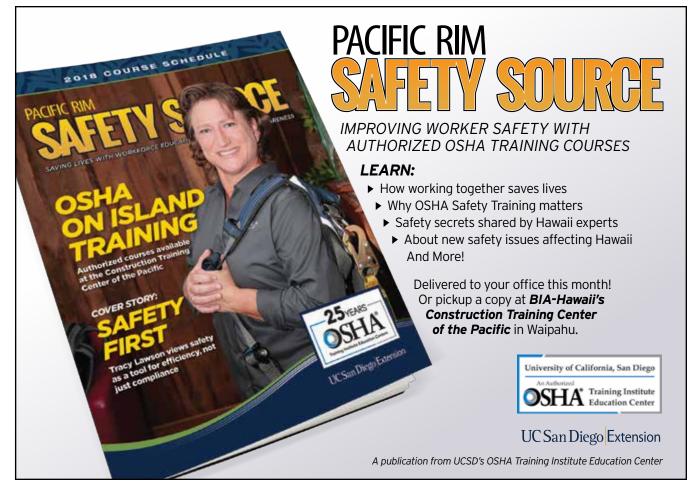
In November, Denny Watt revealed

the core of his success in contributing to more than a thousand structures: "Humor is the most important. Keep it light and you can talk with anybody."

Good words to end the old year and begin the new.

.....

Know a good person doing good things in Hawaii's building industry? Please e-mail don@tradepublishing.com.



# Swinerton Lands \$32.5M DOE Contract

Swinerton Builders captured the lion's share of more than \$51 million in government contracts awarded by five agencies in October, with the bulk of the work earmarked for Department of Education projects.

Ninety percent—or \$46,400,499—of the contracts were awarded for construction on Oahu. Agency awards for the month, down approximately 38 percent from 2016's \$82,927,971 to \$51,274,093 this year, included \$37,689,887 for DOE projects. The largest contract, at \$32,577,000, went to Swinerton for construction of a new classroom building at Campbell High School.

Department of Transportation awards valued at \$11,861,223 included a \$6,607,766 contract for guardrail and shoulder improvements on H-2 and Moanalua Freeway won by GP Roadway Solutions Inc., as well as a \$3,058,850 contract to resurface Kalihi Street from Nimitz to School Street, won by HI Build LLC.

After 10 months, agency awards are \$1,145,561,358, down nearly 25 percent from \$1,525,503,503 during the same period last year.



#### **OCTOBER'S TOP 10 CONTRACTORS**

1. Swinerton Builders (1)	\$32,577,000
2. GP Roadway Solutions Inc. (1)	6,607,766
3. HI Built LLC (1)	3,058,850
4. MEI Corporation (3)	1,663,574
5. Global Specialty Contractors Inc. (1)	1,653,213
6. Isemoto Contracting Co. Ltd. (2)	1,534,317
7. F&H Construction (2)	974,479
8. International Roofing & Building Construction (2)	
9. United General Contracting (3)	
10. Hawaiian Dredging Construction Co. Inc. (1)	

Information is summarized from the Contractors Awarded section of *BIDService Weekly*, compiled by Research Editor Alfonso R. Rivera.

#### **AWARDS BY AREA**

0ahu	\$46,400,499
Kauai	
Maui	
Hawaii	
Total	

#### AWARDS BY AGENCY

DOE	\$37,689,887
DOT	11,861,223
DAGS	1,160,731
UH	
DPWHI	67,773
Total	\$51,274,093

#### Oahu \_

Swinerton Builders\$32,577,000 Campbell High School, New Classroom Building
GP Roadway Solutions Inc
HI Built LLC
MEI Corporation
F&H Construction
International Roofing & Building Construction
Hawaiian Dredging Construction Co. Inc
International Roofing & Building Construction
United General Contracting 283,500 Hickam Elementary School, Miscellaneous R&M FY13

 Road Builders Corporation
 280,000

 Aliamanu Middle School, Area 02 Parking Lot Expansion

 BCP Construction of Hawaii Inc.
 229,716

 Nimitz Elementary School, Building K, Replace Grease Trap

 United General Contracting
 207,757

 Ilima Intermediate School, Building E & C, Replace Stairwell Wall

 Certified Construction Inc.
 182.000

Kipapa Elementary School, Miscellaneous R&M FY16
Bora Inc......152,294

Alvah Scott Elementary School, Building K, Replace Grease Trap

Island Construction & Demolition...... 135,828 Aikahi Elementary School, Building E, Replace Grease Trap

Tory's Roofing & Waterproofing Inc.....113,500 Mililani Uka Elementary School, Miscellaneous R&M FY17

Brian's Contracting Inc......111,000 Kanoelani Elementary School, Miscellaneous R&M FY10

First Quality Building & Design ...... 110,937 Nuuanu Elementary School, Bldg. J, Replace Grease Trap

Henry's Equipment Rental & Sales Inc. 71,000 Kalani High School, Ct-1 Demolish Custodian Cottage

#### Maui\_\_\_\_\_

MEI Corporation
F&H Construction
MEI Corporation
Hawaii

Hawaii Sheetmetal & Mechanical ........ 67,773 Schultz Siding Complex, AC Improvements, South Hilo

#### Kauai

**Global Specialty Contractors Inc...... 1,653,213** Guardrail and Shoulder Improvements at Various Locations, Part 4, Koloa, Lihue

#### LOW BIDS \_

The companies below submitted the low bids in October for the work detailed. Submitting the lowest bid is not a guarantee of being awarded the job. However, it is a strong indication of future work, and subcontractors can plan accordingly.

#### Oahu \_\_\_\_\_

Nan Inc.....\$22,311,200 Moanalua Freeway, Highway Lighting Improvements, Halawa Heights Off-Ramp to Middle Street Overpass

Henry's Equipment Rental & Sales Inc	1,745,863
Wahiawa Water System Improvements, Part II	, ,
MEI Corporation	1,592,901
Hui Ulili Street, 12-Inch and 8-Inch Mains	, ,

Fine Builders LLC	1,558,345
Campbell High School, New Classroom Building	

DYC Electrical Services	400,000
Kalihi Kai Elementary School, Electrical System Impro	vements

Brian's Contracting Inc	341,000
Moanalua Middle School, Miscellaneous R&M FY16	

Coconut Wireless Construction	318,500
Security Fencing at Manoa Chlorinator, Pearl City 1	050 Reservoir
Bora Inc	. 275,711

Kalani High School, Miscellaneous R&M FY13

Air Conditioning Essential Services...... 177,645 Roosevelt High School, Bldg. A, Install AC

Tory's Roofing & Waterproofing Inc...... 59,900 Kahala Elementary School, Repair Covered Walkway

Peterson Bros. Construction Inc............ 45,997 Ala Wai Elementary School, Building A, Asphalt Repairs and Paving

Pacific Isles Equipment Rentals ........... 41,545 Iliahi Elementary School, Campus Replace Fence

#### Maui \_

Maui Kupuno Builders LLC...... 1,811,253 Maui Motor Sports Park, Dragstrip Resurfacing

BCP Construction of Hawaii Inc...... 1,671,881 Hana High and Elementary School, Miscellaneous R&M FY14

Betsill Bros. ..... 1,488,030 Waikapu Community Center Expansion, Wailuku

Castaway Construction & Restoration LLC	89,312
Lahaina Aquatic Center, Shade Structure	

#### Hawaii

#### Kauai

New homes in Ha'akea at Ho'opili PHOTO COURESTY D.R. HORTON

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### **INSIDE THE BIA**

# Tackling Hawaii's Houselessness

Finding solutions to the state's housing shortage is the organization's priority for 2018

BY DAVID PUTNAM

he Building Industry Association (BIA) of Hawaii is ramping up its efforts to advocate for solutions that will help speed up and increase housing developments to match the demand in the Islands.

"BIA will continue to work on increasing housing supply at all price points, which is needed to sustain a healthy housing market where people can move up as their situation requires," says CEO Gladys Quinto Marrone, noting that Oahu needs 25,000 new housing units between 2015 and 2025, according to state officials.

"The lack of available housing increases, at all prices, prevents people

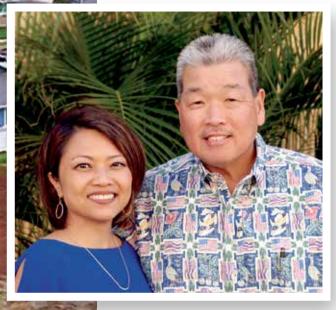
from moving up and opening their unit to someone else, thereby exacerbating our already difficult housing situation," she says.

Two major home developments on Oahu—Koa Ridge and Hoopili—are underway and eventually will deliver 14,000 housing units. "Absolutely great," Marrone says, "but not enough to meet demand." The state, she notes, will still need 10,000 more just to keep pace.

> Without more housing at all price points, Hawaii stands to suffer major setbacks, say BIA leaders.

"Any new housing to the market is always a positive impact to meet stated demand," she adds, noting that "Koa Ridge will provide 3,500 families with a place they can call home. While it is a step in the right direction, we need more new housing."

To attract attention to the housing shortage, the BIA hosted a housing summit for the third straight year. With a theme of "Still Houseless in Hawaii," housing advocates gathered at Dole Cannery on Nov. 14 and shared information on the problem, and the need to keep up with the



BIA-Hawaii CEO Glady Marrone and 2018 President Dean Uchida PHOTO BY ANJJ LEE

demand for housing.

"A healthy housing market allows homeowners to move up as their income or need increases as well as move down to smaller units as their needs change," says Dean Uchida, who soon takes the reins as the BIA's 2018 president.

The BIA "will continue to focus on two critical areas where 'political will' is required to increase the supply of housing," says Uchida, a senior project manager in the Strategic Services Group for SSFM International. Those critical areas, he says, are "increasing regional infrastructure or infrastructure capacity, and providing more land entitled and zoned for development."

At the recent BIA housing summit, economist Paul Brewbaker and others suggested that easing the state's

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permitting process and addressing the costs related to infrastructure would help to get more projects off the ground in less time.

Castle & Cooke Hawaii broke ground on the 526-acre Koa Ridge community on Nov. 2. The massive project also is an example of the problems with the building process that hinder Hawaii's builders and developers, Marrone says.

"Koa Ridge took almost 20 years from planning to groundbreaking. If housing is a priority, then we, as a community must be open to building housing faster, perhaps by reducing some regulatory barriers," she says. "If not, then our situation will only get worse every year."

> "People choose not to live here because it's so expensive, and that's not right." —Dean Uchida

Infrastructure, such as sewers and roads, says Marrone is "a big upfront cost for new housing that a developer is usually made to pay for even if it benefits a larger region than just their development. That cost is ultimately spread among the new homeowners. Steps need to be taken to make funding available for infrastructure to support housing.

"How we prioritize things is really where we decide to spend our money."

Without more housing at all price points, says Uchida, Hawaii stands to suffer major setbacks.

"Teachers, professors and healthcare professionals are unable to afford housing in Hawaii," he says. In the healthcare industry, he says, "they pay the same salary across the board nationally, an anesthesiologist or whatever. If you're in Atlanta, with a million-dollar house you get a three- or four-car garage, servants' quarters, a pool. In Hawaii, you get a broken-down shack in Kahala.

"So when you look at it from that standpoint, without providing housing for these professions, if we can't bring in the best and the brightest, what are

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we in Hawaii faced with in educating our kids? It's this spiraling effect, the unintended consequences of not having enough housing. People choose not to live here because it's so expensive, and that's not right. And there's something about home ownership, you build your community, you have a stake in it. You create a better, healthier community when people have some skin in the game. And we're losing all that.

"The availability of housing, at all price points, is a critical component of a healthy community," Uchida adds. "We should be building an average of 2,500 new units each year, on Oahu, for the next 10 years to meet the projected demand."

At the BIA's housing summit, members were informed by California Sen. Scott Wiener about a bill, SB 35, that streamlines the approval process for housing when that state's cities are not meeting the housing creation goals, with the intent of expediting the construction of affordable housing in California.

In addition to Brewbaker of TZ Econimics, other speakers at the summit included Denise Iseri-Matsubara, senior special assistant from Gov. Ige's office. who discussed the state's efforts to address affordable housing. A panel that spoke on "Opportunities for Counties to Build More Housing" included Gary Kurokawa from Mayor Kirk Caldwell's office, Mayor Alan Arakawa of Maui, Mayor Bernard Carvalho Jr. of Kauai and Lance Niimi, a housing administrator from Hawaii County.

#### Wanted: Advocates

Uchida says the BIA will continue to reach out to the Hawaii's elected leaders to push for more infrastructure capacity and to zone more land for development. "We're looking for elected officials who have the political will to champion these two issues," he says, "because these two issues severely constrain our ability to increase the supply of housing.

"We also lack a coordinated plan that integrates the state and county agencies resources, permits and approvals that would allow us to significantly increase the supply of new housing across the state."

Uchida says the BIA will support legislation that "provides alternatives for funding infrastructure, provides for more entitled and zoned lands for developing housing and coordinates the state and county efforts to increase the supply of housing."

With a new Legislative session to open in January, Uchida will help represent the organization's agenda at the Capitol.

"They all know we have a housing problem, but nobody knows how to





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# **Words of Wisdom**

2017 BIA-Hawaii President Evan Fujimoto (below) offers parting advice to incoming president Dean Uchida



"Pace yourself! There's much to do, but BIA's staff, headed by CEO Gladys Marrone, is second to none. They're consummate professionals that go out of their way to support members and the board; we couldn't fulfill our responsibilities without them.

Evan Fujimoto

"Other than that, try not to do too

many things too soon and seek out points of view that may be divergent; no one has all the right answers. Seek consensus over compromise, and remember that it's about leaving a lasting legacy for everyone in Hawaii who wants a place to live where they can really thrive."

fix it," he says. "And they tend to focus on the lower end, homelessness, the low-income housing type. And we try to educate them (legislators) it's not just the low end. For people in the middle, workforce housing, there isn't enough of it. So if you just build more housing, you increase the supply and give people more choices, and you'd be surprised how many units open up. You have empty-nesters who live out in the suburbs, maybe they want to move closer to town, sell their house. So you create that kind of healthy atmosphere. at all these other price points, for sale. "Unless we address this problem, it's going to get out of control."

#### **Strong Leadership**

2017 BIA President Evan Fujimoto says the BIA's efforts during last year's legislative session helped lead to the passage of Act 53. The bill extends the sunset of Act 83—which prohibits the counties from enacting any fire sprinkler mandates for new single-family and two-family homes. Fujimoto, president of Graham Builders, says the

# "New homes are built safer than ever before, with better materials and technology to keep residents safer." —Gladys Marrone

"We've been interviewing legislators, and find out that more and more of them don't own a home in the district they represent. They're living with their parents, grandparents. So we thought that might stimulate some partisan efforts to fix it.

"We've had a lot of talk," Uchida says, "but nothing comes from it. Think about it: Who has been a housing advocate among elected officials? Nobody. The governor is focused on rental housing on government land, which is appropriate, but we still have to build passage of the bill "was a huge win for housing affordability."

"New homes are built safer than ever before, with better materials and technology to keep residents safer," Marrone says. "But if a homeowner wants a sprinkler system installed, they are already able to do so. BIA works to ensure housing is both safe and affordable."

Fujimoto agreed. "BIA is all for building safe and affordable homes. Unfortunately, fire sprinklers, as effective fire suppression systems, can also be exorbitantly expensive, costing tens of thousands of dollars. The legislature agreed with our position and passed the 10-year extension because they recognized the severe impact that fire sprinkler mandates would have on peoples' ability to buy a new home."

Last year the BIA, under Fujimoto's watch, went through "a brand audit with Wall-To-Wall Studios to develop a new look and feel for our association," he says. "Our new logo and messaging will reflect our role as advocates for our industry and for the types of growth people we want and need.

"We are the standard-bearers for anyone who calls Hawaii 'home' and wants vibrant, safe, sustainable and functional communities."

Fujimoto says Hawaii builders "are quite visionary and are passionate about guiding and shaping Hawaii's growth in a responsible way. We see ourselves as stewards and have a great responsibility to make positive contributions to the built environment, whether we're building homes, schools, hotels or shopping malls.

"The general public," he adds, "often has this opinion of the construction industry, and developers especially, as people who just want to 'pave over paradise,' and it's just not true. We have families; we love clean water, open spaces, we appreciate the diversity of our residents and communities.

"We also know that our housing

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## **INSIDE THE BIA**

crisis is impacting individuals and families significantly both financially and from an overall quality of life standpoint. This is what drives us to envision and build communities that people can call 'home.'

"We want to build neighborhoods that reflect our values and allow



Among those attending the BIA-Hawaii's third annual housing summit, "Still Houseless in Hawaii," on Nov. 14 included, from left, 2017 BIA President Evan Fujimoto, Maui Mayor Alan Arakawa, 2018 President Dean Uchida, CEO Gladys Marrone, California Sen. Scott Wiener, Denise Iseri-Matsubara of the Office of the Governor and economist Paul Brewbaker. PHOTO BY ANJJ LEE

# PROUD BIA-HAWAII MEMBERS

people to live in harmony with each other and with the environment."

Looking ahead, Uchida urges the Islands, "as one of the most isolated land masses in the world," to "capitalize on our strengths to attract quality employers that will bring knowledge based jobs to Hawaii. We have a moderate year-round climate and are moving to be toward being energy self-sufficient. We have a strategic location in the middle of the Pacific between North America and Asia, and we have a diverse and rich mixture of cultures."

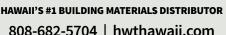
He adds that Hawaii should work to bring in more jobs-and strive to avoid missed opportunities. "While we need to improve in other areas-public education, educated workforce-the next time a firm like Amazon asks for bids to relocate or create a second headquarters, I hope we are not, again, one of the states that does not submit a bid," he says. .....

Columnist Don Chapman contributed to this report.

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# INSIDE BIA-HAWAII

# BIA STAFF



Gladys Marrone, CEO



Cathleen Langin, Member Services Coordinator



Barbara Nishikawa, Operations Director



Shawne Mateo, Administrative Assistant



Carolyn Hyman, Events and Marketing Director



# BIA, from charter to champion

Before statehood and the boom that would follow, a group of 10 visionaries formed what is now BIA-Hawaii to promote the state's building and construction industries.

The new association affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), among the nation's largest and most influential trade associations. Robert M. Kaya became the first president.

Others who signed the original charter in 1955 included William Blackfield, Bert Kanzaki, Earl Kato, Ward Kegin, Robert Kuniyuki, James Lai, Melvin Muraoka, Richard Sato and Kenneth Shioi.

Today, members of BIA include developers, general contractors, specialty contractors, suppliers, Realtors, architects, financial institutions and others devoted to Hawaii's building industry.

While chairing the Hawaii Jobs Summit in 2004, Congressman Neil Abercrombie brought together community groups, government agencies

and construction trades to address the need for construction workers. The BIA responded by committing to build its \$8.3 million Construction Training Center of the Pacific.

One of two key teams driving the project was chaired by then-President John Cheung. Members of his building committee included James Watanabe, Robert Armstrong, Kenneth Choate, Alan Shintani, Kip Kamoto, Paul Silen and Rodney Yamamoto.

The capital campaign was led by 1992 president, Robert Armstrong. Members included Watanabe, Choate, Mary Flood, Cheung, Audrey Hidano, Scotty Anderson and Karen Nakamura.

Opened in 2009, the center continues to provide training to sustain a skilled workforce capable of serving the building and construction industries, while BIA-Hawaii continues to champion advocacy, education and community outreach programs that will "enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii."



Incoming BIA-Hawaii president Dean Uchida with, from left Evan Fujimoto, 2017 president; Gladys Marrone, executive director; Cathleen Langin, membership services manager; Craig Washofsky, 2016 president.

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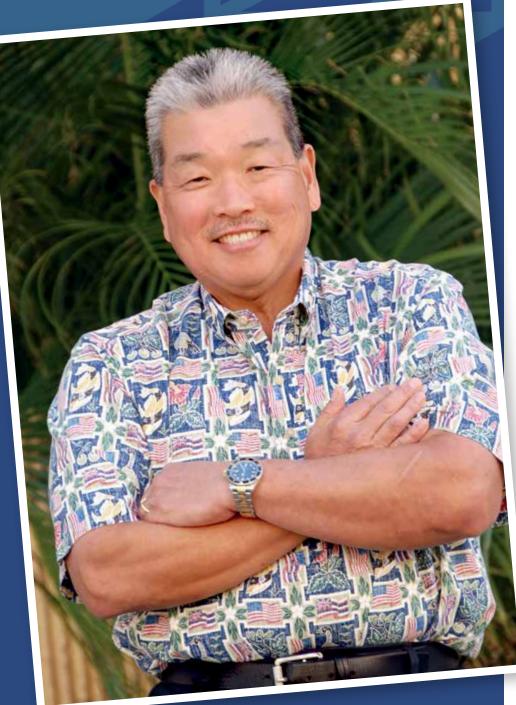
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# **DEAN UCHIDA:** A Serious Champion of Man and Land Relationships

BY DON CHAPMAN Photo by anjj lee



ean Uchida's father Richard was a fisheries biologist at the a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) lab, his mother Marilyn a medical aide at Waimano Hospital. You can almost hear their incredulous but utterly reasonable response when young Dean announced what he wanted to study after graduating from Pearl City High School:

Geography?!

But he did just that at the University of Oregon, then pursued a master's degree in the same subject at the University of Hawaii, adding to that a second master's in systems management from USC.

As it turns out, Dean Uchida's focus on "man and land relationships" puts him today front and center of a problem facing Hawaii that is so serious, he calls it a "social-cultural" concern: Housing. Or a lack thereof.

# "We're hoping rail can help alleviate the housing situation."

This month, Uchida takes the reins as 2018 president of the Building Industry Association of Hawaii, an organization he's been involved with for nearly two decades.

"Our focus at BIA is on trying to increase the supply of housing at all price points," says Uchida, senior project manager in the Strategic Services Group for SSFM International in Iwilei.

"This whole state lacks enough housing just for the middle class. A healthy housing market allows people to step up and buy as your income improves, which opens up housing for other families.

"But our market is so tight right now, there is no supply, and prices are going through the roof. I can't imagine young couples getting started with a \$700,000 mortgage, it's crazy. I've got two kids and they're living at home, and I can't blame them. Rents are crazy out there."

Uchida says SSFM, which is in the former American Can Co. plant on Summer Street, is involved in a "project on Alder Street, the juvenile detention center. DAGS hired us to work with the Judiciary and the state housing agency." agencies deal with real estate issues, trying to make projects happen."

He chairs the BIA's Government Relations Committee, helping to forge allies of other organizations.

"I found that individual organizations get passionate about specific issues, but it's hard to build any coalition to stop bad public policy," says Uchida, a resident of Newtown in Aiea. "So we learned that we can

# For Uchida, private construction and public policy are intimately linked.

The result of their work, he says, will be a new building that houses a "juvenile counseling facility on the first couple of floors, and then a residential tower on top of it—the idea is to maximize state lands. It's the first mixed-use project we did in the state. It's a perfect location, close to Piikoi and King, close to the new transit site.

"You're going to see more of that, joint use, then go vertical. Most cities that have transit go vertical. We're hoping rail can help alleviate the housing situation."

Uchida has been involved with the BIA since the turn of the century, even as he changed jobs, starting with the state Department of Land and Natural Resources, in conservation zoning, then with the land division, handling all state-owned lands.

"I did that about 20 years, and learned about real estate in Hawaii," he says. "The state of Hawaii is the largest landowner in Hawaii. Four million acres is the total land in Hawaii, and the state owns about a million. Then I started working here (SSFM) when I left the state in about 2001, was here about three or four years, then went to run the Land Use Research Foundation for another three, four years, then at D.R. Horton for a couple of years before the economy turned, and I came back here.

"We do project management. Anything that is multi-disciplinary architects, engineers, mechanical, electrical—the project management company puts all that together. My stuff has been more real estatefocused, trying to help companies and create different alliances between Realtors, landowners, BIA, GCA, and collectively speak with a bigger voice than just one organization.

"We may not agree on everything but we try to find issues we can agree on, and bring more people and businesses to the table so elected officials listen. It's always a struggle, but it's also fun."

For Uchida, private construction and public policy are intimately linked.

"My position at BIA has always been involved in government relations, trying to push forward good legislation that would help our industry and try to stop some of the bad legislation that's going to hurt," he says.

Away from work, Uchida works. He's a longtime trustee of the National Association of Home Builders. On the plus side, that allows him and wife Joy to travel, blending his trustee duties with pleasure.

"It's interesting traveling now without children," he says.

Joy, by the way, is controller at the Honolulu Poi Co., aka Taro Brand.

Of the side benefits, Uchida says in his understated way, "We get a lot of bean sprouts."

# **ABOUT DEAN UCHIDA**

BIRTHDAY: May 26, 1958 PLACE OF BIRTH: Honolulu HOMETOWN: Aiea SCHOOL: Pearl City HS FAVORITE SCHOOL ACTIVITY: Football FAMILY: Wife Joy; daughter Elle;

son Troy

**MENTORS:** My Dad, and Mr. Bill Paty—both taught me the meaning of a hand-shake and your word. FAVORITE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT: The new vertical elementary school being designed and built in Kakaako.

**PASTIMES:** Golf, cooking (smoked meat, fish, chicken), walking with my wife

BEST PLACES YOU'VE TRAVELED: New York City and Boston FAVORITE QUOTE: "Do it right the first time!"



Dean and Joy Uchida at the Brooklyn Bridge

# POWER HOOKUP by brett alexander-estes

L+S. AN

Six rail projects, among construction started in 2017, will bolster the industry in 2018 and beyond

Kahului's CONRAC underway by Hawaiian Dredging Construction Co. Inc. PHOTO COURTESY HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



S ix projects in 2017, representing billions of dollars in construction contracts and jobs, will bolster Hawaii's building industry and its economy through 2018—and likely for many years to come.

Two of the projects are at airport facilities on Oahu and Maui, two others are massive residential builds on Oahu, another is the ongoing Honolulu rail system and the sixth is a gargantuan solar farm on Kauai and is the first of its kind in the world.

#### **HART Rail**

Gov. David Ige signed a bill in September that secures \$2.4 billion



in funding for Hawaii's rail project. While the elevated line require billions more, this recent boost to the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation's (HART) budget

Gov. David Ige

at least covers its current shortfall



Crews from Shimmick/Traylor/Granite JV prepare Kamehameha Highway near Aloha Stadium for pouring the foundations for the rail guideway. PHOTO COURTESY HART

and will smooth the way for future construction.

Coming up: The huge City Center Utilities & Roadway project will break ground in 2018.

"The project runs the 4.2 miles from the Middle Street Station to the Ala Moana Center Station, and the value likely exceeds \$250 million," says Bill Brennan, senior communications specialist at HART. "We plan to issue a NTP either late first or early second quarter of

(2018)," Brennan says. Project scope includes roadway widening and permanent utilities relocation, including undergrounding of 138 kV lines. "The project dura-



tion is probably just Bill Brennan shy of 4 years (47 months)," he says.



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"The (project) value likely exceeds \$250 million." —Bill Brennan

Currently, six rail projects are in progress:

• the West Oahu Stations Group (\$58.5 million), with Nan Inc. as general contractor;

• the Farrington Highway Stations Group (\$82.2 million), with Hawaiian Dredging Construction Company Inc. as general contractor;

• the Kamehameha Highway Stations Group (\$117.1 million), with Nan Inc. as general contractor;

• HART's Elevators and Escalators (\$52.4 million), with Schindler Elevator Corporation as general contractor;

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• the Airport Guideway and Stations (\$875 million)-five miles and four stations from Honolulu Airport to Middle Street-with Shimmick/ Traylor/Granite JV as general contractor;

• and the Traction Electrification Project (\$36.25 million), with Ansaldo Honolulu IV as general contractor and with Watts Constructors LLC as subcontractor.

When signing the bill, Ige stated

Classy Entry

that the new funding "makes a strategic investment in the community." This likely includes transit-oriented development-the rail-related redevelopment of some Oahu residential and commercial areas.

Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell also praised the measure, saying "the signing of the rail funding bill into law shows Gov. Ige's commitment and leadership in completing the rail project as promised to the people of

Oahu, and is proof of the hard work done by members of the state Senate and House during the special legislative session."

Cedric Ota, president of the General Contractors



Mayor Kirk Caldwell

Association of Hawaii, says he expects that "transit-oriented development will continue to grow in the coming



years," and cites the importance of TOD guidelines in the upcoming redevelopment of Mayor Wright Housing, slated to start in 2019.

Cedric Ota

"The importance of TOD will be its

influence in guiding current and future growth along the transit corridor and adjoining stations," Ota says.

> "Transitoriented development will continue to grow in the coming years." -Cedric Ota

#### CONRACS

(Daniel K. Inouye International Airport and Kahului Airport)

Hawaii's two new Consolidated Rental Car Facilities at the Honolulu and Kahului airports have a combined project value of approximately \$630 million.

Both CONRACS, designed by Wesley Wong, project architect at Demattei Wong Architecture Inc., are intended to enhance travel efficiency and the Island visitor experience.

"The new (Honolulu) CONRAC will consolidate all rental car companies servicing the airport," says Gennaro Di Nola, general manager for Watts Constructors LLC, the project's



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general contractor. Honolulu's CONRAC, Di Nola says, will include 2,250 parking stalls.

Both CONRACS are also aiming for LEED Silver certification

Gennaro Di Nola

and employ cutting-edge technologies. These include efficient energy systems, onsite storm water management, construction waste reduction through recycling, low-emitting building materials such as adhesives and sealants, and open-air ventilation of most areas in the CONRACS' core structures.

At the Honolulu airport jobsite, for example, Watts is reusing existing asphalt for dust control, reducing landfill waste by reusing demolished concrete, and using an on-site washout treatment system.

When operational, both facilities will speed rental car transactions and visitor transit, all while paying homage to Hawaii's heritage through distinct architectural elements like a Dickey plantation roof (Kahului) and wood-structured beams with a canoe profile (Honolulu).

And with Hawaii visitor levels at record highs, faster and sleeker airport

> "The new **CONRAC** will consolidate all rental car companies servicing the airport." -Gennaro Di Nola

turnarounds are vital to customer satisfaction in Hawaii's "No. 1 industry."

Honolulu's CONRAC is slated to be fully operational in 2021. Kahului's CONRAC main building, with

Hawaiian Dredging as general contractor, is slated to open in fall 2018.

#### Hoopili and Koa Ridge

After many years and legal challenges, two highly anticipated Oahu residential projects got underway in 2017. Hoopili, in particular, dovetails with HART's planned route from East Kapolei into Honolulu.

Hoopili, D.R. Horton's masterplanned, approximately \$4.6 billion community that at completion will provide approximately 11,750 new residential units to Hawaii families, is already selling homes in its Haakea Phase 1 neighborhood. Eventually, Haakea will include approximately 150 single-family homes with some offering ADU options. Haakea will also include 1.5 acres of commercial space and 1.8-acre Konane Neighborhood Park with a playground and gathering pavilion.

Holoa, Hoopili's second neighborhood, will offer approximately 140 multifamily homes, including townhomes, duplexes, FLEX-Homes and stacked flats. FLEX-Homes are "live/

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HOOPILI | Phase 3



**ROYAL CONTRACTING CO., LTD** 677 Ahua Street • Honolulu, HI 96819 (808) 839.9006 • www.royalcontracting.com work" homes with commercial space on the ground floor and residential space above. Approximately 293 homes in both Haakea and Haloa were scheduled to be delivered in November. Hoopili's development is projected



Attending the Koa Ridge blessing are, from left, Ashley Ferreira, Harry Saunders of Castle & Cooke Hawaii, Gov. David Ige, David Murdock of Castle & Cooke Inc., Mayor Kirk Caldwell and Kahu Kordell Kekoa. PHOTO COURTESY CASTLE AND COOKE HAWAII

to span 20 years. If Hoopili follows its current blueprint, it will eventually include 3 million square feet of commercial space, five schools and 200 acres of commercial farmland.

Koa Ridge, on the slopes of Central Oahu, broke ground in November, ushering in the first phase of infrastructure construction for the future 3,500–unit residential community.

Approximately \$500 million in water, sewer, drainage and roadway improvements are slated to start in December, with home construction scheduled to start in late 2018.

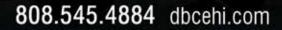
The \$2 billion residential project will create a walkable community on 576 acres with retail and dining venues, a commercial district, a medical center, a industrial/business center, a new elementary school, parks and bike trails.

Residential units will be a mix of single-family, multi-family, senior and 1,050 affordable homes. Construction at Koa Ridge is expected to continue for 10 years.

Both Hoopili and Koa Ridge are clearing the way for future



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## **Tesla Solar Farm**

Local utility companies' inability to efficiently store and use privately generated solar power has dimmed solar's promise in Hawaii, where the



Rendering of shopping area at Koa Ridge

sun is king.

Abundant energy produced during the day often can't be stored on the grid, so fossil fuels are usually back in business after dark.

Kauai Island Utility Cooperative (KIUC) in March eliminated much of its nighttime reliance on diesel fuel with the completion of the world's first utility-scale dispatchable solar facility.

This means Kauai's facility can provide solar energy on demand, as opposed to a restricted time frame. This has positive implications for the cost of energy in Hawaii and for the state's 2045 clean energy mandate. And especially for budgets that are constantly eroded by energy costs, such as for building projects.

The solar farm, with approximately 55,000 solar panels and a 52 MWh Tesla Powerpack lithium ion battery storage system, was built by SolarCity (recently acquired by Tesla) and Tesla on 50 acres owned by Grove Farm near Lihue.

KIUC doesn't own the facility; rather, it has a 20-year power

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purchase agreement with Tesla, which so far has produced energy for KIUC at 13.9 cents per hour, less than the cost of oil.

KIUC has also reportedly arranged

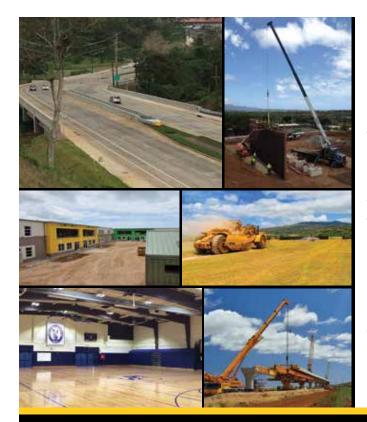
for the construction of another solar facility by a different energy company that will also feature lithium-battery storage.

This future facility on Kauai's South



Crews work to connect the Kapaia Power Station to the Tesla solar farm.

PHOTO COURTESY KIUC





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solar farm and a 20-megawatt five-

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hour duration energy storage system,

According to a Tesla spokesperson, Hawaii has been one of the largest adopters of solar power in the U.S., but the inability to store that power has heretofore been curtailed by surplus-generation concerns. Pairing renewables with storage—as with Tesla's lithium ion batteries—is a promising way to increase renewable penetration on Hawaii's grid.

As Hawaii construction heads into 2018, says Ota, "other major contributors would include private work such as resort timeshare conversions and renovation work, as well as commercial, retail, and residential projects." With Hawaii's top 2017 projects working in concert, both public and private sectors will likely have energy

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#### Docomo Pacific's new headquarters

## **Docomo Pacific Gets New Home** \$10.5M renovation of former Ben Franklin store on Guam completed

BY MAR-VIC CAGURANGAN

the renovation of the old Ben Franklin building in Tamuning, Guam, and its new tenant, Docomo Pacific, moved in on Nov. 20.

The \$10.5 million project, which began in October 2016, was designed by RIM Architects, with Studio E helping with the building's exterior work, according to Docomo's Kenneth Quintanilla. The grand opening of the Docomo headquarters is scheduled for January.

Docomo, a telecommunications firm, is leasing the building from MV Pangilinan Enterprises, which operated the Ben Franklin Department Store for 33 years before it shut down in 1999. The landmark building has been idle since its closure.

"The building includes various updates to bring it up to 2017 building standards and safety requirements. The former escalators, which were the first of its kind to be operated on Guam at the time, have been removed and elevators have been installed," Quintanilla says.

"The new building will include an open space concept aimed at encouraging collaboration and more productivity. The Ben Franklin building wasn't built or designed with windows, but part of the renovation included redoing the structural design to include more than 40 windows."

The new Docomo facility includes five meeting rooms, 11 conference rooms, two break areas, a lounge and café and three training rooms. Docomo, which has been operating at the Century Plaza, will occupy 48,000 square feet of the 60,000-square-foot building, Quintanilla says.

The parking lot include 300 stalls with a gated employee parking in the back of the building. Solar panels also have been installed in the parking lot.

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# Hawaii Infrastructure Worst in the Nation?

Conditions of roads, dams cited as major problems

BY BRANDON BOSWORTH

awaii's infrastructure woes continue to cost residents money and may even put their lives at risk, according to national studies.

For example, Hawaii was ranked the state with the worst infrastructure in the U.S. in an August report by 24/7 Wall St., a financial news and

opinion company. Titled "States That Are Falling Apart," the report found that 29 percent of Hawaii roads are in poor condition, 5.7 percent of bridges are deficient and a whopping 93.2 percent of dams are at high hazard risk. When it comes to highway spending, Hawaii is ranked in the bottom 10.

To identify the states with the worst infrastructure, 24/7 Wall St. used data from a variety of sources. The share of roadways in poor condition and the share of bridges considered structurally deficient came from the Federal Highway Administration's report Highway Statistics 2015.

The share of dams classified as

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high hazard potential came from the National Inventory of Dams, a database maintained by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Association of State Dam Officials. Highway spending as a share of total government spending came from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2015 Annual Survey of State Government Finances.



Evan Fujimoto

"It's uncertain how the conditions and risk factors are evaluated, but most would agree our roads are in poor condition and have been for some time," says Evan Fujimoto, president of Graham Builders and 2017 Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA) president. "Ultimately, it's a management issue—not accurately assessing the condition and required maintenance of roads and infrastructure, combined with less-than-adequate fiscal planning to execute a comprehensive plan

## **Improving Hawaii's Infrastructure** Among large projects underway or expected to begin soon:

## HIGHWAYS OAHU

- H-1: Addition and Modification of Freeway Access, Makakilo to Palailai IC (Kapolei Interchange Complex), Phase 2; \$52.5 million. GC: Goodfellow Bros. Inc. Est. wrap: July 2018.
- Likelike Highway Resurfacing, School Street to Emmeline Place; \$ 13.9 million.
   GC: Jas. W. Glover Ltd.
   Est. wrap: April 2018.
- Pali Highway Resurfacing, Waokanaka Street to Kamehameha Highway, and Pali Highway Lighting Replacement, Vineyard Boulevard to Kamehameha Highway (Phase I); \$67.4 million.
   GC: Goodfellow Bros. Inc.
   Est. wrap: July 2019.
- **New Projects:**
- Fort Weaver Road Resurfacing, Interstate Route H-1 to Keoneula Blvd.; \$10 million to \$15 million. Scheduled advertising: May 2019.
- Moanalua Freeway, Highway Lighting Improvements, Halawa Heights Off-Ramp to Middle Street Overpass; more than \$15 million. Bid opened October 2017.

- H-1: Guardrail and Shoulder Improvements, Kapiolani Interchange to Ainakoa Avenue; \$10 million to \$15 million. Scheduled advertising: October 2018.
- Pali Highway Resurfacing, Vineyard Boulevard to Waokanaka Street (Phase 2); more than \$15 million. Scheduled advertising: June 2018.

### AIRPORTS OAHU

- Daniel K. Inouye Honolulu International Airport: New Consolidated Rental Car Facility (ConRAC); \$329.5 million; HDOT (CFC). GC: Watts Constructors LLC. Mechanical: Dorvin D.Leis Co. Inc. Est. wrap (full operation): Summer, 2021.
- IIT Mauka Extension;
   \$227 million. GC: Hensel Phelps Construction Co. Est. wrap: end of 2019.
- Roadway /Terminal Signage Improvements; \$23 million. GC: Global Specialty Contractors Inc. Est. wrap: 2019. New Projects:
- Widen Taxilanes G & L Phase II; \$50 million. Est. start: November, 2020. Est. wrap: 2022.

## MAUI

 Kahului Airport: OGG ConRAC; \$331 million; HDOT (CFC).
 GC: Hawaiian Dredging.
 Mechanical: Dorvin D.Leis Co. Inc. Est. wrap: Fall 2018 (ConRAC); early 2019 (Tram); Spring 2019 (Tenant Improvements).

## New Projects:

- Holdrooms A and B Improvements; \$40 million.
   Construction Schedule:
   Negotiating design contract; Advertising in 2020.
   Est. wrap (construction completed): 2021
- Apron and Lease Lots; \$64 million. Construction Schedule: Negotiating design contract; advertising in 2020. Est. wrap: 2020

### **HAWAII ISLAND**

- Kona International Airport, KOA Terminal Modernization, Phase 1; \$75.4 million. GC: Nan Inc. Est. wrap: March 2019. New Projects:
- Pacific Region Aircraft Rescue Firefighting (ARFF) and All-Hazards Emergency Services Training and Research Center; \$30 million. Est. start: November 2018. Est. wrap: 2020.

### KAUAI

Lihue Airport, Runway 3-21 and Taxiway B Rehabilitation; \$10 million. Est. start: March 2018. Est. wrap: September 2018.

## HARBORS OAHU

• Honolulu Harbor, Kapalama Container Terminal Yard; \$165 million. GC: Kiewit Infrastructure West Co. Est. wrap: July 2020.

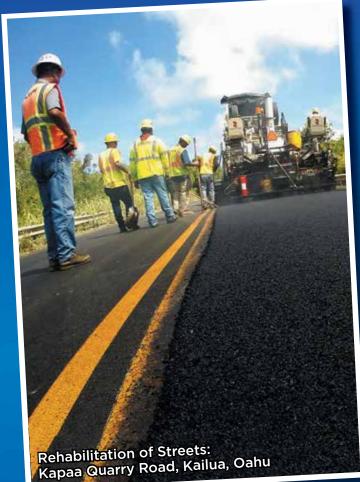
## **New Projects:**

- Kapalama Container Terminal, Wharf & Dredging; \$250 million. Est. bid opening/start: June 2018. Est. wrap: June 2022.
- Keehi Industrial Lots Improvements, Phase III; \$16 million. Est. bid opening/start: June 2018. Est. wrap: June 2019.

### MAUI

• Kahului Harbor, Infrastructure Improvements at Pier 1 Op Area and Ala Luina Street, Phase 2; \$15.25 million. Est. start: September 2018. Est. wrap: September 2019.

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Hawaii's Department of Transportation plans millions of dollars in road work in 2018.

to build new or maintain existing infrastructure."

Fujimoto adds that "politics plays a huge role in determining which projects receive funding, and which ones don't. There are many competing needs and shortfalls in many areas such as an under-funded ERS (Employees' Retirement System) and a huge repair and maintenance backlogs at UH-Manoa."

The 24/7 Wall St. analysis echoed the findings of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) 2017 Infrastructure Report Card, released earlier this year. The ASCE found that "this deteriorating infrastructure impedes Hawaii's ability to compete in



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an increasingly global marketplace."

According to Brian Pallasch, managing director, AFSC govern-

ment relations, "39 percent of the state's roads are in poor condition, costing drivers more than \$700 a year, which is a little above average." In 2016, the



Brian Pallasch

state Department of Transportation reports it filled more than 36,000 potholes on Oahu alone at a cost of more than \$350,000. Additionally, Honolulu has paid more than \$2.5 million to settle potholerelated claims and lawsuits.

"Oahu's large population occupies a relatively confined urban core, so it's understandable that our roads experience high usage and have to withstand wear and tear from all types of cars and trucks," Fujimoto says.

"As to why we lag in spending on highways is a mystery; perhaps there are too many other competing needs such as wastewater treatment plant upgrades due to the EPA's consent decree, rail or investments in renew-

able energy goals." Jon Young, exec-



Ion Young

utive director of the Hawaii Asphalt Paving Industry, does see progress being made.

"Both the City and County of Honolulu (City)

and the Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) have taken positive steps in to maintain our roads in good condition," Young says. "The HDOT has been sealing cracks in both the H-1 and H-2 highways, which will limit water getting into the subgrade and deteriorating the pavement structure. Over the past 5 years, the city has been repaying roads and has also been implementing their pavement maintenance program of applying seal



A recent report claims 29 percent of Hawaii roads are in poor condition.

coat and slurry seal.

"It is anticipated that these efforts will result in the improved quality of our roads. The other counties are doing their part as well."

The ASCE also pointed to Hawaii dams, describing 123 of them as "high hazard" dams.

"I'm surprised to read that our dams are high risk only because most people are not aware of their location and current condition—out of sight, out of mind," Fujimoto says.

The 2006 Ka Loko Dam breach on Kaui that killed seven people is just one example of the dangers posed by hazardous dams. On the plus side, Pallasch noted that 98 percent of Hawaii dams have an emergency action plan, versus the national average of 77 percent.

Unfortunately, Fujimoto sees things getting worse in the near future.

"Our state tries to do too many things while not taking care of the basics," he says. "Our tropical climate and proximity to the ocean cause quicker deterioration of the built environment, including roads and infrastructure."

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"Lot H" 8,000-square-foot residence in Koloa, Kauai

# Hillside Masterpiece

## Artistry in stone and cedar sets the bar for luxury living in Koloa

hen Wade Bartel, "Lot H" project manager for Unlimited Construction Services, strolled onto the Kauai lot in 2015, he immediately saw a steep obstacle. So did Bing Hu, project architect.

More sobering than the residential lot's size—63,676 square feet—was the slope, Hu says. The hillside property overlooks Kukui Ula's golf course and cascades down to the fairway.

Moreover, the client, the founder of a major U.S. company, "thinks big and in terms of high quality," Bartel says, adding: "Perhaps this is why he chose Bing Hu as his architect."

Hu is founder and principal of H&S International LLC, which has completed

BY BRETT ALEXANDER-ESTES PHOTOS COURTESY UNLIMITED CONSTRUCTION SERVICES INC.



Wade Bartel



Claudio Munõz



Bing Hu



Lance Delos Reyes

more than 300 projects with a construction value of more than \$3 billion. Licensed in Hawaii, other U.S. states and Canada, Hu has won many regional and international awards for his luxury resorts and residences.

H&S International, Hu says, has a great relationship with Unlimited, which also has an impressive record of Island luxury builds.

The Lot H team—Unlimited's Bartel and Lance Delos Reyes, project engineer; and H&S International's Hu and Claudio Munõz, senior designer recently sat down with Building Industry Hawaii and described how they created an approximately \$14 million mansion on a red-dirt Koloa hillside.



#### What were you hired to do?

**BARTEL:** Unlimited Construction was contracted to build a very highquality home for a discriminating client and architect. At the time (January 2015), it was the largest proposed home (8,000 square feet under roof) in the Kukui Ula development.

#### How did you approach the project?

**HU:** The goal was to create a freeflowing home with a simple, modern design that would put the emphasis on what the location offered more than what the house as a sculpture could be.

#### Did all parties share this vision?

**BARTEL:** Bing Hu is a true artist. His homes are expressions of creativity. As such, they can be challenging to build. We often met to discuss these challenges and Unlimited's proposed methods to accomplish his vision.

**HU:** Unlimited was part of the design process from the beginning, and that makes a world of difference. They did an incredible job of keeping the process going ... and helping keep the schedule and budget under control.



Vaulted clear western red cedar ceilings at lanais



The Great Room with 30-foot vaulted cedar ceiling, Sapele wood accents and travertine floors

#### Did the client like the design?

**BARTEL:** He visited the site very often and provided input. As his vision evolved, Unlimited Construction and Bing Hu made numerous changes to bring his vision to fruition. This is the nature of a "high-end" project.

**HU:** There can't be any design if the client isn't involved. Ultimately, it is their home, and the project needs to be a reflection of their personal interests

and preferences, not the architect's.

## Did the construction specs match the site?

**MUNÕZ:** What the survey was showing didn't quite reflect the onsite conditions. The biggest challenge was the site slope. It was hard to figure out the driveway's approach to the house, which actually changed drastically halfway through the process.



Lava rock walls surrounding monolithic slab and frame

#### How did you solve this problem?

**BARTEL:** The home is on a monolithic slab on a hillside. This required multiple large retaining walls across the lot, all of which are stone.

**MUNÕZ:** We needed to readdress the driveway design and access point. The collaborative effort of the whole team first highlighted the need to reevaluate the issue, and second, helped make it possible without affecting the quality of the project or its schedule.

#### How did this affect project costs?

**BARTEL:** On this particular project, there were over \$2 million of changes. Each of these changes needed to

be managed by both Bing Hu and Unlimited. Bing Hu and his staff were very efficient with their redesigns and the Unlimited staff offered input about materials, techniques and budgeting. We managed to achieve a very symbiotic relationship.

#### What did Unlimited suggest?

**BARTEL:** In many ways, the construction techniques and equipment resembled those used on a commercial project. Because of the use of steel infrastructure and the vast amount of concrete and accessibility, we were required to use a crane and concrete boom pumpers. We also used man lifts



Yoga pavilion with stone columns

that are not typically used on most residential projects.

#### Did you use custom materials?

**MUNÕZ:** Cut lava stone, natural wood siding, natural stone flooring—Travertine.

**BARTEL:** Clear western red cedar vaulted ceilings ... stone countertops ... Sapele cabinets. There are several water features that Bing Hu specialordered and had delivered to the site. They include a 1-ton fountain and several stone fountains at the pool.

**MUNÕZ:** H&S has an interior design department ... so we could integrate details and ornamental elements from the beginning.

## Which project team members really made a difference?

**BARTEL:** The entire team at Unlimited excelled during this project. This was truly a team effort and everyone including our administrative staff, safety staff and engineering staff performed at their best. But, in the end, it still always comes down to our field personnel (carpenters and finishers) and their dedication to quality that produces the exceptional product.

There was a project engineer that did a particularly outstanding job. Lance Delos Reyes deserves a lot of the credit for material sourcing and sub-contractor management.

#### Were there particular subcontractors who did an exceptional job? BARTEL: Pohahu Fabrications

(tile and stone); 8 Pacific Masons



Infinity edge pool and fountains overlooking golf course

(stone walls and concrete); No Ka Oi Landscaping (landscaping).

# When the project wrapped in December 2016, was the client pleased?

**BARTEL:** At the end of the project, the client was and still is very satisfied. (He) has remarked that "it's so great to come home. The house feels so comfortable and relaxing when I walk in."

## What do you feel are the project's standout features?

**DELOS REYES:** At first glance, it's hard not to be amazed by the size of

this house. But its size isn't everything. Being part of its construction compels you to appreciate the details that truly set this home apart.

**HU:** I think what I enjoy most about it is that it is a calming home. Exactly what you want from a place in paradise.

**BARTEL:** Everything in the home from its custom entry doors, beautiful woodwork and openable walls to the vast, expertly landscaped grounds with stone walls, infinity pool, spas and cold plunge—exudes luxury and quality. It has since set the bar for the "best of the best" in the area.



Marble floors and imported bathroom fixtures in master bath

## **Grand Tour**

Welcome to "Kukui Ula Lot H," a landmark luxury residence in Koloa, Kauai:

- Two stories
- 8,000 square feet under roof
- Three bedrooms
- Four-and-a half baths (main residence)
- Guest house (1 bedroom, 1 bath, wet bar)
- Lanais for every room
- Travertine floors inside and out
- Clear western red cedar vaulted ceilings



"Lot H" luxury residence in Koloa, Kauai

- Clear western red cedar siding
- Large second floor office/game room (full bath and wet bar)
- Great Room with 30-foot vaulted cedar ceiling
- Formal dining room
- Gourmet kitchen
- Designer lighting
- Stone countertops
- 250-square-foot walk-in closet with custom cabinetry
- Sapele cabinets, doors and trim
- Wolf/Subzero appliances
- Full-size Wolf/Subzero wine cooler
- Walkthrough pantry
- Stone columns
- Yoga pavilion
- Infinity pool
- Cold plunge spa
- Private master spa
- Four shower gardens
- Stone privacy/retaining walls
- Firepit
- 1.6 acres of landscaping.

# Road and Highway Builders Begin Farrington Resurfacing

Honolulu-based Road and Highway Builders LLC, an affiliate of the Texas based Sterling Construction Co., recently began a \$2.3 million repaving project on the city-owned section of Farrington Highway, from the Kapolei Golf Course Road to approximately 1.5 miles east of Kualakai Parkway.

The work will cover 2.23 miles of roadway and is estimated to be finished within 180 calendar days. The project includes milling of asphalt concrete pavement, reconstruction and resurfacing of asphalt concrete pavement, adjustment of utility manholes to grade (frames and covers) and installation of pavement markings.

The repaving work hours will be from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, with possible Saturday work.

## HART Wins ASBI Bridge Award

The Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation rail project was chosen among eight finalists for the 2017 American Segmental Bridge Institute (ASBI) Bridge Award of Excellence. Eight projects were selected for the award from a pool of both national and international projects.

The ASBI award is given biennially to bridge projects that are "outstanding examples of segmental concrete bridge construction," the type of construction used to build the Honolulu Rail Transit Project's elevated guideways.

HART's award recognizes construction and design excellence over the Project's first two phases, from East Kapolei to Aloha Stadium.

# **GCA To Host Webinar**

The General Contractors Association (GCA) of Hawaii sponsors a free webinar this month on the AIA A201 2017 General Conditions Document, which has had its insurance requirements restructured in the new edition to create a new Insurance Exhibit A.

Also called the "keystone" or "umbrella" document for a design-bid-build projects, the recent changes will impact how insurance requirements required by owners and insurance products contractors must procure (and avoid exclusions).

The webinar is scheduled for Dec. 11 from 9-10 a.m. at the GCA Conference Room at 1065 Ahua St. To register, go to www.gcahawaii.org or email Gladys Hagemann at gladys@ gcahawaii.org.

The AGC-endorsed ConsensusDocs also made significant changes in its updated standard documents that among other things now defaults to the constructor procuring the Builder's Risk Policy, instead of the owner. The webinar will highlight changes to insurance requirements and what builders need to do to comply or alternatively contract negotiation strategies.

Speakers will include Jeff Vita of Saxe Doernberger & Vita P.C. and Brian Perlberg, AGC of America senior counsel.



HART and its contractors CH2M, FIGG Bridge Engineers, Kiewit Infrastructure West, and HNTB Corp., among others, were praised by ASBI for designing a superstructure strong enough "to support a crane so that it could be taken off the ground and eliminate any traffic disruption."

According to ASBI, projects were selected based on innovation of design and construction, rapid construction, aesthetics and harmony with a project's environment, cost competitiveness and minimization of construction impact on the traveling public.

The ASBI awards jury noted that 7.5 of the 10 miles of completed guideway had to be built "over and along congested roadways and intersections."

# Healthy Days for Paints, Finishings

## Popular trends in Hawaii range from self-priming products to stained and epoxy concrete

BY BRANDON BOSWORTH

Business in Hawaii's painting and finishings industry has been described as "healthy" by painters and suppliers, who optimisti-

cally forecast an increase in demand for their products and services in 2018.

"For us things are looking real good," says Dean Ford, president of Ford Painting



Dean Ford



PPG's Voice of Color 2018 color of the year is Black Flame PPG1043-7. PHOTO COURTESY AMERITONE MAUI

Professionals. "Lots of people are spending money again. I'm kind of shocked by how many calls we've been

## "Our industry is pretty healthy at the moment." —Jesse Taylor

getting in the last six months." The summer was especially busy, and Ford says since it was "the driest summer in 30 years we got lots of work done." He adds that with "more troops coming to Hawaii, the military will be beefing up housing units in

preparation," which means more homes in need of painting. "Our industry is pretty healthy at the moment," says JD Painting & Decorating's Jesse Taylor. "We have experienced ups and



Jesse Taylor

downs recently but for the most part we and our competitors have managed to stay busy."

On the Valley Isle, Joni McGinnis of Ameritone Maui says the paint-

ing and finishing



Joni McGinnis

industries have seen "a surge of projects from large repaints and new construction to mid- and smaller-scale maintenance. The feedback I hear from many contractors is that they are extremely busy, and some have even declined to bid on new work.

"As a paint supplier the competitive landscape has increased with added paint dealers and the reopening of the new Lowes in Kahului. Corporate stores have increased their dominance in the paint and supply sectors but independent dealers such as ourselves continue to compete in this market."

Keeping the industry fresh are new products and innovations. Ford says



Crews from Ford Painting Professionals waterproofing at the Crown Thurston PHOTO COURTESY FORD PAINTING PROFESSIONALS





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one recent innovation is self-priming paint.

"It cost more but being able to skip the primer saves time," he says.

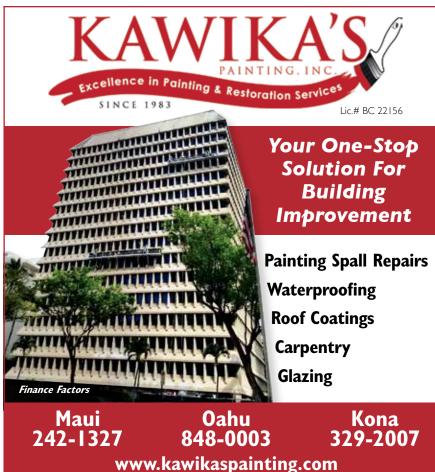
Despite the price, Ford says selfpriming paint is growing in popularity and that most suppliers now offer it.

"The great marketing of the paint-and-primer-in-one products have reached its peak in which every manufacturer has one in its lineup,"

> "At present there seems to be an abundance of work and jobs are on the upswing." —Joni McGinnis

McGinnis says. "It is well understood in the paint industry that not all situations require a primer but then again there are also certain conditions that would. An effective salesperson will guide the customers to the proper choice to avoid a failed result."

Self-priming paints currently on





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The Honolulu Don Quijote is one of the projects JD Painting & Decorating has worked on. PHOTO COURTESY JD PAINTING & DECORATING

the market include Sherwin-Williams Duration, BEHR Premium Plus Ultra Paint And Primer In One, Valspar Ultra Premium and Benjamin Moore Regal Select High Build Exterior Paint.

Another innovation is moisture sensitive paint. "It dries quicker and helps get the job done faster," Ford says. "It dries in 15 to 30 minutes, not several hours." He adds that moisture-sensitive paint is especially useful in humid weather or if rain is approaching.

Some innovations are the result of new regulations and concerns over product safety.

"Most of the trend change we have experienced over the past five years have all been associated with safety in particular VOC (volatile organic compounds) regulations and most recently the new OSHA silica regulations," Taylor says. "Many of the everyday products we used for years have been reformulated to lower the VOC content and some have even been discontinued. We have always been conscious of the potential harm silica poses but recent new regulations have further emphasized the risks of working around materials that contain silica."

McGinnis says "the trend of lower to zero VOCs for paints have leveled off given that most paint manufacturers have already reformulated to meet federal standards and even met the stringent standards of California. The low to zero VOC products are the new standard and it is continuously being improved in its application and quality."

Manufacturers not only have to respond to new regulations but to changing consumer tastes.

"Colors trends are constantly evolving but we have seen some new finishes emerge in our industry," says Taylor. "We have seen a trend recently of wallpaper re-emerging as a

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- J.D. Painting & Decorating, Inc.
- Metropolitan Painting & Environmental Systems, Inc.
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specified finish especially in the hospitality segment. We have also seen new markets emerge over the last 10 years in finishes like polished concrete especially since the modern industrial look has emerged."

"It's that time of the year where everyone eagerly awaits the paint companies' picks for their colors of year," McGinnis says. "PPG's Voice of Color 2018 color of the year is Black Flame PPG1043-7, a shade of black with blue indigo undertones. Early color forecasts suggest a bolder, deeper palette. Brighter colors are also predicted to make its way onto the palette.



Ameritone Maui worked on Milo Court, part of the Kehalani master-planned community on Maui. PHOTO COURTESY AMERITONE MAUI

"As of today Pantone has not announced its color of year but we are all waiting with bated breath."

New innovations extend far beyond just paint. "Some of the new liquid applied flooring products are very interesting, and concrete stain and epoxy floors seem to be constantly evolving," Taylor says. "Epoxy floors have been around for many years but new technologies and finishes are constantly emerging such as adding metallic flakes added into finishes to add an additional depth to the finish.

"Concrete stains has evolved immensely, not too long ago they were majority acetone based and difficult to apply, today we have water based stains that are much easier to apply and provide similar depth to the finish like the old acetone finishes."

While the local painting and finishing industries have been doing well, McGinnis says she's seen several "long-time paint contractor operations close down after being in business for decades." However, new companies are forming to take their place.

"From these businesses former workers have sprouted into their own independent businesses continuing to compete in this Maui market," she says. "At present there seems to be an abundance of work and jobs are on the upswing. Ameritone Maui is a family-owned local paint business competing in tough market."

Ford says the future of the local painting and finishing industries looks bright. "Suppliers are moving lots of product. We have to place orders in advance because things aren't in stock," he says. "There's nothing to hold the industry back."



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# **Multifunction Printer**

The HP DesignJet T830 24-Inch Multifunction Printer allows architects, engineers and construction teams to collaborate onsite and across sites by printing, copying, scanning and sharing plans with a single device.

The T830 offers wireless printing from smartphone, tablet or computer with Wi-Fi Direct and HP Mobile Printing. It can print A1/D sized prints in up to 26 seconds. The HP Smart app allows users to share scanned images with email contacts or post them to the cloud. www.hp.com



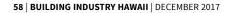
## Laser Screed

Somero's S-22EZ Laser Screed includes all of the features and benefits as the S-22E model while incorporating new elements such as the EZ Clean Head. Additional enhancements include a uniform body profile, increased storage with LED lighting, LED work lights, illuminating fuse panel and oil sprayer mount. Equipped with 360-degree machine rotation, a 20-foot telescopic boom and a variety of pivoting screedheads, the S-22EZ also features integrated diagnostics, a customized OASIS laser control system and full-time, automatic valve calibration.



# Hydraulic Excavator

Gradall's XL 4100 V hydraulic excavator features a Tier 4-Final complaint Volvo Penta diesel engine and is capable of road speeds up to 60 mph. Maximum boom reach is 30 feet at grade, while maximum dig depth is 20 feet. Loading height maximum is 17 feet. Rated bucket force is 24,900 pounds while the telescoping boom crowd force is 21,940 pounds. The telescoping boom forces are constant through the entire dig cycle. A cab safety option provides rollover protection without external support. www.gradall.com



## **HART Board** Welcomes 4 **New Members**

Four new members have been appointed to the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation's (HART) board of directors.

Senate President Ron Kouchi on



Oct. 25 selected Wesley Machida

and Kalbert K. Young, and House

Speaker Scott Saiki announced Kamani

Kuala'au and Tobias "Toby" Martyn.

Their appointments were announced







Kamani Kuala'au

Tobias "Toby" Martyn

on Nov. 6 by Mayor Kirk Caldwell. The new members will attend future meetings as non-voting members.

## **G70 Appoints New Manager, Adds Three**

G70 has appointed Kelley Tanaka Kalani as marketing manager and hired Peter L. Mow, Lynel Rabago and Pualikai "Kai" Akiona-Ferriman to the Hawaii design firm's staff.

"We're excited to appoint Kelley as our new marketing manager and welcome Peter, Lynel, and Kai to the G70 ohana," said G70 President Charles Kaneshiro, AIA, LEED AP. "We're fortunate that these professionals, who have all shown great promise

of new website and marketing col-

of experience to her new position,

lateral. She brings more than a decade



and vision, are a part of the G70 ohana."

In her new position. Tanaka Kalani will manage G70's revamped marketing and communications efforts, including design and production

including serving as a G70 executive assistant and guiding the firm's brand renewal last year. Previously, Tanaka Kalani was WATG's office manager.

Mow, who has more than 25 years of industry experience, joins G70 as project manager. He will oversee the design and study of infrastructure facilities and management of project staff. Mow is a



Peter L. Mow

licensed professional engineer and received his bachelor's in engineering from Arizona State University.

Rabago has more than 15 years of experience and joins G70 as project engineer. She will provide civil design support for public and private sector projects, including site development, storm water management and green infrastructure design, water and wastewater design, public outreach



Lynel Rabago

efforts, and master planning and assessments. Rabago is a licensed civil engineer, and received her bachelor's in biology and master's in civil engineering from

the University of Washington.

Akiona-Ferriman joins G70 as civil designer, providing design and drafting support for transportation, roadway and site development projects, including preliminary and final design

drawings, construction specifications, cost estimates and engineering reports. Akiona-Ferriman received his bachelor's in civil engineering from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. 🕇



Pualikai "Kai" Akiona-Ferriman



## BIA-Hawaii Membership Meeting

The Building Industry Association of Hawaii held its General Membership Meeting and Construction Forecast on Nov. 8 at the BIA-Hawaii's headquarters at the CTC-Pacific in Waipahu.



Gladys Marrone, Evan Fujimoto, Ben Duquette, Dan Guthmiller, Gary Okimoto



Dwight Mitsunaga, Stefanie Nishikawa, Eric Wong, Greg Thielen

Cyd Kamakea, Shawne Mateo, Carolyn Hyman

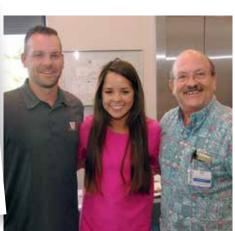


Matthew Rose, Chris Cheung, Marshall Hickox, Brett Byxbee



Joel Frenzel, Jessica Crimmins, Timothy Waite, Will Becker





Jimmy Wilkinson, Ann Ingham, Dan Barnett



Ben Duquette, Paul Brewbaker, Lance Takaki



Naomi Choquette, Derrick Partain, Miguel Robledo, Jessica Crimmins, Judy Wilkinson



Ron Romero, Geoffrey Michaelson, Clifton Crawford, Eric Yasunaga, Mike George-Sanchez



Nick Hastings, Mark Kennedy, Patrick Gill, Beau Nobmann



Stefanie Nishikawa, Gladys Marrone, Michael Watanabe, Cathleen Langin, Karen Berry

# A New Year, a New Approach

BY GARRETT SULLIVAN

ontractors go into business to achieve financial freedom and increase wealth. Generally, in the beginning they obtain a lot of work and usually don't understand their costs and tend to bid work very cheap. As the business expands it becomes increasingly difficult for the owner to operate the business efficiently as they often lack the ability to manage rapid change.

This situation can escalate quickly and they may begin to feel like a slave to their business. Perhaps, as an owner, you feel this way. There are very common pain points which contribute to this situation.

As we enter a new year, consider updating or creating the following approaches to revitalize your business.

### **Begin with the End in Mind**

Don't just bid and build. Even if you never plan to sell your business, take measures to ensure it could be sold. All we have in life is today and tomorrow is uncertain. Take action today to ensure your family and employees will have the same lifestyle and security should you become incapacitated or worse. There are few things sadder in life to witness than a contractor spending a lifetime to build a business only to watch it be liquidated for pennies on the dollar due to unforeseen circumstances.

### **Review or Create** Your Vision

Step back and take time to review where your business will be in the next three to five years. If you are a savvy contractor that has begun with the end in mind, know that it will require a few years to profitably transfer your business to the next generation. When you have a vision that is shared with the organization, everyone is operating on the same page and the direction of the company is understood. Ideally, you have taken the time to inform everyone what their role is in the march forward. Lastly, you can create your ideal working situation as the generational transfer progresses and moves away from the "putting out daily fires" many contractors experience.

### **Delegate More**

As the company grows it is imperative to step back and think more strategically than operationally. Oftentimes, the addition of an operations manager, general superintendent, or chief operating officer will allow the owner to focus more long-term instead of dwelling on day-to-day issues.

Decide today to act more like a coach than a player in the game of contracting and tie employee compensation to results.

### 'Work on' Your Business More

Most contractors tend to focus too much on the day-to-day and fail to take time to "work on" their business. When you "work on" your business each week you will very slowly, but surely, improve. Set a goal to become a Best in Class contractor in your sector of work. Start by making a list of six to eight target improvement areas for 2018. Then commit to spending two hours a week "working on" your business. Annually, this amounts to 104 hours, or 2.5 weeks. Imagine if you immediately spent two weeks exclusively working on your business, there would be great improvement.

## **Systems and Procedures**

Truly successful contractors will develop and implement systems and procedures. Without question, it is a long and tedious process. However, it reaps enormous dividends in many ways. For example, less time is needed to train new employees, there

is consistency throughout the organization, and quality control is achieved in all procedures.

The simplest way to create systems and procedures is to develop a flow chart for the company which starts with business development and moves through establishing procedures for each field operation and office task. It should be updated at least yearly. We live in the age of social media thus, pictures with captions are better than long narratives, as it will be more easily understood. When completed, demand it be followed rigorously every day with no exceptions.

## **Update Technology**

The construction industry is innovative and those who do not change with it will be left behind. Change is difficult and often contractors are reluctant to transition due to unfamiliarity with new technology. Resolve to stay current in 2018 and implement one or two new technologies.

## **Create and Follow a Budget**

If you want to make more money next year, now is the time to plan your revenue and profit for 2018. A yearly budget should track revenue and expenses on a monthly and annual date basis. Review the budget monthly to ensure a higher degree of profit success.

As you look to the New Year, implementing all or a few of the above will move your company in a more efficient and profitable way. Why not try a new approach in 2018? What are you afraid of, more success?

Garrett Sullivan is president of Sullivan & Associates Inc., a company that helps contractors clarify, simplify and achieve their goals and vision. Contact him at GSullivan@SullivanHi.com or 478-2564.



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