



Kihei Community Association

"e malama pono"...dedicated to protecting,
sustaining and enhancing our 'āina, kai and 'ohana

KIHEI COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION POSITION PAPER ADDRESSING WEIGHT LIMITS ON SOUTH KIHEI ROAD DECEMBER 2016

The Kihei Community Association (KCA) has lobbied for a weight restriction on South Kihei Road. The purpose of reducing the allowable load would accomplish several objectives for the community. First it would reduce truck traffic on South Kihei Road and place the trucks on the Pi'ilani Highway which is designed to take heavier loads. Second is that South Kihei Road is residential in part and reduction of truck traffic would be beneficial to a walkable and bikeable community.

To this end, KCA supports the following actions:

1. KCA supports placing a weight limit on South Kihei Road (SKR) at a maximum of 20,000 pounds.
2. KCA further supports placing a lower weight limit on South Kihei Road when culvert or bridge safety requirements deem heavier loads unsafe.

KCA position is based on the following assumptions and facts:

1. Without adequate support, a pavement surface deflects too much under trucks carrying heavy loads, developing cracks or ruts. These then let more moisture penetrate, worsening the cycle until the road fails completely. The amount of damage a road sustains is directly related to the weight of the load and how often it is applied.
2. Some portions of South Kihei Road have asphalt surfaces of two inches or less, or total pavement less than 12 inches thick.
3. Past experience on SKR shows there are areas with alligator cracking or rutting that break up every year and need frequent patching and repair.
4. Many areas of SKR pavement are old pavement where the asphalt binder has oxidized to the point that it does not hold the pavement together. Deflection of these areas will quickly cause cracking and potholes.
5. The less reputation of heavy loads will substantially increase pavement life.
6. The proposed limit of 20,000 pounds is set to allow most personnel vehicles to use the road. A lower limit would restrict some personnel vehicles. Many models of small truck are manufactured to have a GVM rating of 11,000 to 15,400 lb.
7. Larger trucks are a greater danger to pedestrians and bicycles forced into a narrow roadway.