

Kapolei Shopping Center Hosts West O'ahu's First Sustainability Fair: Focuses on Electric Vehicles

Hawaii is the most fossil fuel dependent state in the nation, and has set an aggressive goal of achieving 70% clean energy by 2030 and 100% by 2045 through renewable energy and energy efficiency. It's a massive undertaking that requires statewide participation in a variety of targeted clean energy initiatives. Kapolei Shopping Center is putting a spotlight on one particular initiative — promoting the use of electric vehicles (EVs and plug-in hybrids) in West O'ahu at its Sustainability Fair on Saturday, June 29, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Mark Babin with his BMW 530E.

Kapolei Shopping Center SUSTAINABILITY FAIR 2019

SAT. JUNE 29 | 10AM – 1PM

- Electric vehicle showcase
- EV ride-and-drive
- Information + activity booths
- Ongoing entertainment
- Free stainless beverage tumbler with merchant receipt (while supplies last)*
- Win great prizes, including a mainland flyaway*

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Why EVs?

West O'ahu drivers have a heightened appreciation of the cost of driving and maintaining their auto vehicles as they endure long drives commuting to and from their jobs in downtown Honolulu and other parts of the island. The Sustainability Fair will show residents how EVs and hybrids (referred to as EVs here) can substantially and sustainably reduce the high cost of owning and driving a gas-powered car. For example, by some estimates, the annual cost of gas for the average car can be about \$1,000. By switching to electric, the annual recharge cost could be about \$500. And there are more benefits for Oahu EV owners, according to one satisfied driver.

Why He Drives a Plug-in Hybrid

Mark Babin has been driving a plug-in hybrid for a year and a half now, and has not looked back. A BMW driver, he made the switch when his dealer suggested he try the BMW 530E. Babin, who is president of MMI Realty Services, Inc., and a frequent flyer, says the first and main motivating factor for the switch was the appeal of free parking at the airport for EVs. And metered parking is free. He also said that he's able to drive in HOV lanes without a passenger — a big benefit when he drives during rush hours to and from Kapolei, where his company is property manager for both the Kapolei Shopping Center and Campbell Square.

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West O'ahu's First Sustainability Fair

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"I also have photovoltaic panels at my home, which generate electricity for the entire house, including AC," Babin said. "And I also get to charge my EV car for free! The only thing missing is PV batteries to store electrical power when the electrical grid goes down. Then, I will be completely self-sufficient. Think of how much that saves on fossil fuels!"

When Babin's in Kapolei, if he needs to charge up, he can plug into one of two charging stations at the Kapolei Shopping Center.

Test Drive an EV at the Fair

Several EV dealers, including BMW and Tony Nissan, will have models on display at the Sustainability Fair. They'll explain all the features and benefits of their various models, and interested people may even have a chance to test drive an EV. It'll be the sweetest, quietest ride they'll ever experience!

The Fair is more than about electric vehicles

But EVs are just a small part of the clean energy equation. Government agencies, non-profits and business organizations are the important players in the state's

overall clean energy initiative. Some of their representatives will be at the fair to provide information and demonstrate some of the ways they as organizations are working towards the state's clean energy goal. To encourage action on the individual level, they will also share the many steps people can take at home, at school and at work to help reduce their carbon footprint and contribute to making Hawai'i energy clean and efficient.

"Kapolei Shopping Center is very happy to host this fair, and we are especially grateful to our main sponsors, Hawaiian Electric Companies and Ulupono Initiative, who, together with Summit Media, have partnered to bring sustainability fairs to other communities like Kapolei," said Corinne Hiromoto, senior asset manager for James Campbell Company. "We're glad to have them bring this important message to our west side residents."



BMW i3, and (inset) Nissan Leaf

Our Sponsors

Hawaiian Electric Companies

The Hawaiian Electric Companies are committed to a clean energy future, and it starts by working closely with partners such as Ulupono to help build strong, sustainable and resilient communities. At the Kapolei Sustainability Fair, Hawaiian Electric will provide information on electric vehicles, as well as the company's Project Footprint campaign, which encourages customers to take steps to reduce their carbon footprint.

"We're happy to support the Kapolei Sustainability Fair, which allows us to connect with West O'ahu residents and share our initiatives to advance the switch from gasoline to electric vehicles," said Jimmy Yao, Hawaiian Electric's acting director of Electrification of Transportation. "Electric vehicles help reduce Hawai'i's dependence on imported oil, eliminate tailpipe emissions and put our abundant solar resources to work."

Ulupono Initiative

"Kapolei Shopping Center's 2019 Sustainability Fair brings together a diverse array of organizations that share a vision of a more resilient and self-sustaining Hawai'i," said Amy Hennessey, Ulupono's senior vice president of Communications & Community.

"We are proud to partner with organizations like Hawaiian Electric to further educational opportunities around electric vehicles. This aligns with our mission at Ulupono Initiative, which is to improve the quality of life for island residents in four key areas: locally produced food; clean, renewable energy; and better management of water and waste. From bringing your own water bottle to learning more about electric vehicles, the Sustainability Fair offers opportunities to increase awareness, educate, and take action for the Kapolei community."

Other Fair Participants

- Aloha Charge
- AT&T
- Blue Planet Foundation
- Honolulu Board of Water Supply
- City Storm Water Quality Branch
- City Recycling Branch
- Habitat ReUse
- Hawaii Energy
- Zero Waste Oahu
- Sunrun
- Ulu A'e Learning Center

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The Kapolei Properties Division of the James Campbell Company LLC is focusing on the development of the City of Kapolei, and on economic development and job creation in the Kapolei region.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON KAPOLEI, PLEASE VISIT: www.kapolei.com or contact Steve Kelly at stevek@kapolei.com

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