Breaking ground for the 29th IBCT’s future readiness center with Governor Abercrombie (center wearing Maile Lei)

The Hawaii Army National Guard’s 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team recently broke ground on a new Readiness Center located within Kalaeloa. When completed, the readiness center will provide support for individual soldiers and collective unit training for the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team headquarters, the 29th Brigade Support Battalion, and the 29th Brigade Special Troops Battalion.

“It will also be a vital staging area in the event of a mobilization for a state mission,” said Maj. Gen. Darryl D.M. Wong, Hawaii Adjutant General. “Our state mission is what makes the Guard unique among all military components, making this new facility a major benefit for the community as well,” said Wong.

The facility will provide close to 900 soldiers with new classrooms, an assembly hall and auditorium, spacious restrooms and a modern kitchen. The facility will cost approximately $30.4 million, has been designed in accordance with Hawaii’s unique cultural and architectural styles and will be energy efficient. It is targeted to be Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver. The 29th IBCT is the largest unit in the Hawaii National Guard, and includes units within the Hawaiian Islands, and upon mobilization, units from Arizona, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The 29th IBCT has been mobilized twice for service in Iraq and Kuwait since 2004.