

# SENATOR DONNA MERCADO KIM

PROUDLY SERVING  
DISTRICT 14



KAPALAMA · 'ĀLEWA · KALIHI · KALIHI VALLEY · FT. SHAFTER · MOANALUA GARDENS & VALLEY · RED HILL

## KALIHI-PALAMA COMMUNITY REPORT

### Aloha Neighbors & Friends!

I look forward to continue representing our community in the new year! Happy new year and, as the legislature begins to start up for this session, I encourage you to get involved in your government. My staff this session includes Patricia “Kalo” Cornett, Kathy Nii, Savannah Coules, and Crystal Castille. Each of these individuals are committed to serving you. Thank you for being a cherished part of our community. Hau'oli Makahiki Hou!

Mahalo,



### Kamehameha Schools Kapālama Commencing Long Anticipated Construction Project



Kamehameha Schools Kapālama is starting a construction project with the objective to improve existing campus facilities for the benefit of their haumāna, kumu, and the wider school community. I would like to make you aware of construction-related traffic that could possibly affect residents along Makuakane Street and Makuakane Place. You may hear an increase in traffic noise and see periodic deliveries of oversized building materials that could span the width of Mauakane Street. To minimize the impact to neighbors, the following measures will be in place:

1. Project work is scheduled to take place Mondays through Fridays from 8 am - 6 pm and Saturdays from 9 am - 4 pm
2. The periodic delivery of large, slow-moving construction vehicles will be limited to 9 am - 3 pm in order to prevent travel during busy traffic times
3. On-street parking should not be impacted
4. Dust is not anticipated but we will promptly deploy measures if traffic dust does become an issue

For any questions or concerns, call (808) 523-6324

### Opening of the 33rd Legislature

The 33rd Legislature of the State of Hawai'i has commenced today, January 15th. We are ready to take community concerns head-on and plan to address matters surrounding illegal fireworks, wireless devices in schools, and other relevant issues.

To track a bill, you can register for an account on the Hawaii State Legislature website (<https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/account/register.aspx>). From your account you will be able to create personalized measure tracking lists, submit testimony online, and receiving hearing notice notifications by email.



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January 15, 2025

# Community Events and Updates

## Addressing Concerns Regarding Illegal Fireworks



I appreciate those who have reached out and shared their concerns about the growing danger of illegal fireworks, particularly during the holiday season. I understand the frustration many residents feel regarding this issue, as illegal fireworks not only pose safety hazards but also disrupts our communities. There will be several bills introduced this session aimed at addressing this issue. I encourage you to participate and send in testimony when the proposed firework bills are scheduled for hearings.

You can track bills at each point of the legislative process. You can register for an account on the Hawaii State Legislature website (<https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/account/register.aspx>).

## How to Do a Bill Update

Being active in the legislative process is integral to participating in your local government.

To track the progress to proposed bills this session, you can do so at [capitol.hawaii.gov](http://capitol.hawaii.gov). Here you will click on the “Reports and Links” tab at the top of the web page. Then, click on the “Subject Search” bar. In the search box that appears, enter the exact word or phrase you want to find.

The “Measure Tracking” feature offered on the Legislature’s website allows you to create lists of measures you’re interested in and easily view the status of numerous measures at one time.



## Back to School Festival

**When:** January 24 at 2:30 pm – 6:00 pm

**Where:** Farrington High School, Front Lawn Auditorium

**Contact:** 808 305-5000

Farrington High School’s Class of 2026 presents the Back to School Festival! This event is open to the community and aims to foster fun for the whole family. The day will include local food vendors, games, photoboosts, and more. Start the new year celebrating education and learning.

## 2025 Lunar New Year Festival and Parade



**When:** January 25, 2025 at 9:00 am – 10:00 pm

**Where:** Chinatown Cultural Plaza

**Contact:** 808 533-3181

This day long event is the perfect way to celebrate Lunar New Year and welcome the Year of the Snake. Festivities include food and craft vendors, free keiki bouncy houses, rest tent, three entertainment stages, bicycle valet, and a parade. The parade will start at 4:30 pm but make sure you come early to enjoy all the festivities and find your seat!

**January 15, 2025**