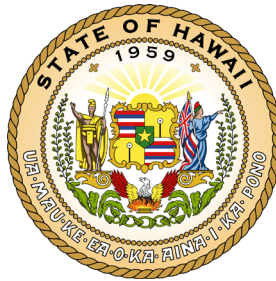


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Proudly serving District 8 - Kahakuloa, Waihe'e,
Waiehu, Puuohala, Wailuku, Waikapū, parts of Kahului

NEWS AND UPDATES FROM Representative Troy N. Hashimoto

November/December 2021

Aloha! As we head into the holiday season, I want to send my best wishes and hopes that you are able to spend quality time with friends and family. This is always my favorite time of year to reflect, be thankful, and see what we accomplished over the past year. It truly is an honor to represent our community and I look forward to continuing our work in the new year. Happy Holidays!

Aside from all the holiday shopping, get-togethers, and holiday cheer, this time of year is also very busy at the Legislature. The 2022 legislative session is just around the corner beginning in mid-January, which means I am currently working on proposals to introduce in the upcoming session. If you have any ideas or concerns that impact our community, please let me know very soon, so it can be considered in this upcoming session.

One of the biggest issues that I am also monitoring are the final recommendations of the State Reapportionment Commission, which impacts who your elected officials are at the State Legislature. Every 10 years, representative districts are redrawn based on population. In the latest proposal, Waikapū will now be represented by West Maui, which may not be the best fit for the community. More information is included in this newsletter and how you can provide your input, which I encourage you to do.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas, please do not hesitate to contact me or my office. Stay safe and enjoy this special time of year!

Mahalo,



With Sen. Gil Keith-Agaran and first lady Joycelyn Victorino at the County of Maui Halloween drive thru event in Central Maui. Over 650 cars were given treats.

Historic Federal Infrastructure Deal

President Joe Biden on November 6, 2021, signed the Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the largest long-term investment in our infrastructure in nearly a century. For decades, infrastructure in Hawai'i has suffered from a systemic lack of investment. The American Society of Civil Engineers gave Hawai'i a D+ grade on its infrastructure report card. This Act will improve the life of Hawai'i residents, create well-paying jobs and economic growth.

Specifically, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act for Hawai'i is slated for:

- ▶ **\$1.2 billion** for federal-aid highways to be used to repair and rebuild roads with a focus on climate change mitigation, resilience, and safety for all road users.
- ▶ **\$18 million** to support the expansion of an EV charging network in the state to enable long-distance travel and to provide convenient charging where people live and work.
- ▶ **\$160 million** to help provide broadband coverage across the state, including providing access to the at least 280,000 Hawai'i residents who currently lack connectivity.
- ▶ **\$3 million** for the Department of Energy's State Energy Program to pursue state-led clean energy transition initiatives.
- ▶ **\$200.4 million** to improve water infrastructure across the state by improving drinking water treatment, pipes, water storage tanks, support municipal wastewater facilities and treatment systems.
- ▶ **\$246 million** for airports to improve runways, gates, taxiways, and terminals and make investments that will reduce congestion and emissions, and drive electrification and other low-carbon technologies.
- ▶ **\$339 million** for bridge repair and replace deficient or outdated bridges.
- ▶ **\$637.4 million** to help repair and expand Hawai'i's public transit system, including a historic investment in cleaner and safer buses.

A highlight of the Act includes access to \$7.5 billion in Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grants which will support surface transportation projects of local and/or regional significance. In early November, the Hawai'i Department of Transportation also announced it will receive \$22 million from RAISE Grant funds to support a realignment of the Honoapiilani Highway in West Maui and protect it from sea level rise. For information regarding this infrastructure bill, go to or www.schatz.senate.gov/

Reapportionment Commission: proposal impacts Waikapū

Article I, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution sets forth a mandate for an “actual enumeration” that requires a count of every person living in the United States of America every ten years to be conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. The Census provides the basis for congressional apportionment, states’ votes in the Electoral College, and redistricting for congressional, legislative and local electoral districts. It also determines how much federal money gets distributed and it shapes how policymakers make decisions.

Once the Census is completed, the State of Hawai‘i creates a Reapportionment Commission to review the distribution of the population and re-draw the political districts to ensure that citizens are equally represented. The Commission conducts public hearings and consults with the Advisory Council of each basic island unit during the preparation of a new reapportionment plan. After the public hearings, the Commission may revise the proposed plan, if necessary.

So what does this mean for Central Maui?

In Maui County, the population grew from the 2010 Census, but specific areas of Maui grew faster than others, notably Central Maui. As a result, the elected representatives in Central Maui represent too many residents. South and West Maui did not grow as fast as Central Maui. The representative districts of South and West Maui need to add additional residents for all representative districts to be equal.

The current proposal from the Hawai‘i Reapportionment Commission calls for the West Maui House member to include all of Waikapū, removing it from the Wailuku House member. The South/West Maui Senator is proposed to now include lower Waikapū (Spencer Homes) and the Legends of Maui Lani. This would mean the upper half of Waikapū would be represented by the Central Maui Senator and lower Waikapū by the South/West Maui Senator. As a result, Waikapū Gardens would be represented by a West/South Maui Senator and a West Maui Representative.

Summary of the proposed House District changes in Maui County:

Expands District 11 (current South Maui) to encompass all of Kihei/Wailea/Makena. As a result, District 10 (currently represents North Kihei/West Maui) has a deficit (because of removing North Kihei) and adds Waikapū to the district, removing it from District 8 (Wailuku). Old Sand Hills is added to District 8 (Wailuku) from District 9 (Kahului). Leaves District 12 (Upcountry) and District 13 (East Maui, Molokai, Lanai) status quo.

Summary of the proposed Senate District changes in Maui County:

Expands District 6 (South/West Maui) to encompass all of Legends at Maui Lanai and Waikapū Gardens. District 5 (Central Maui) still retains upper Waikapū. District 7 (Upcountry, East Maui, Molokai, Lanai) remains the same.

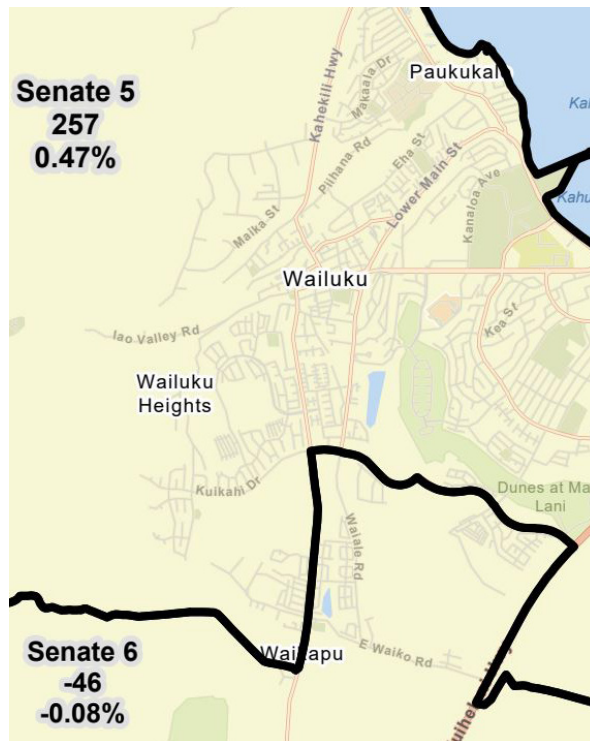
Why does it matter?

Representation matters. Keeping communities together allows for an elected official to advocate for specific community needs with one unified voice. In the case of Waikapū, it is typically known to be a part of Central Maui with similar concerns – going to the same schools, library, health care facilities, experiencing the same traffic, and community issues. Splitting up Waikapū and being represented by West Maui likely will bring geographic and community challenges. West Maui issues are unique and is very different than Central Maui. The proposed maps make it very confusing for residents and could make Waikapū an after-thought because it is now split among several elected representatives.

What can you do?

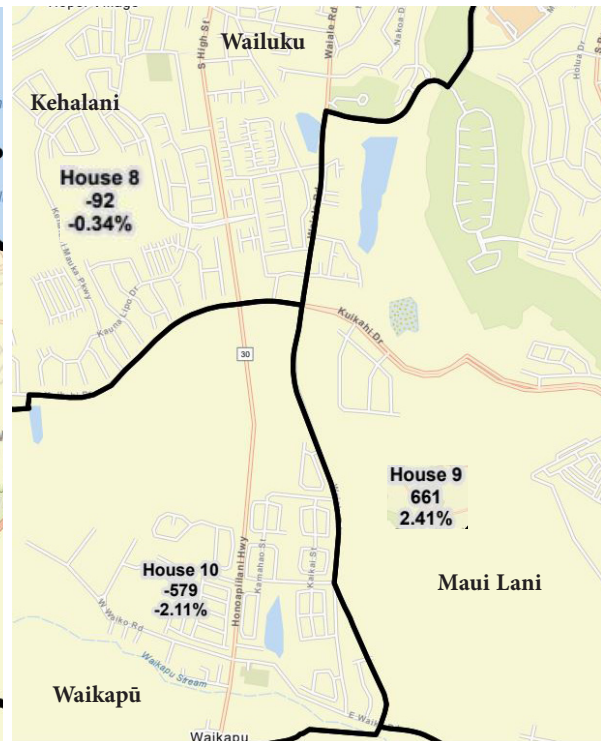
The Reapportionment Commission will be holding hearings on each island to hear from community members on the proposed maps. Testimony will go a long way in advocating for the Central Maui staying together and the Waikapū community being represented by a Central Maui representative and not separated as a community. See info on next page.

You may view hard copies of the maps at the Maui County Clerk’s Office, 200 S High Street, Wailuku, HI 96793 or view the maps online at <https://elections.hawaii.gov/about-us/boards-and-commissions/reapportionment/>



Proposed Senate District 8

The black line represents the proposed changes.

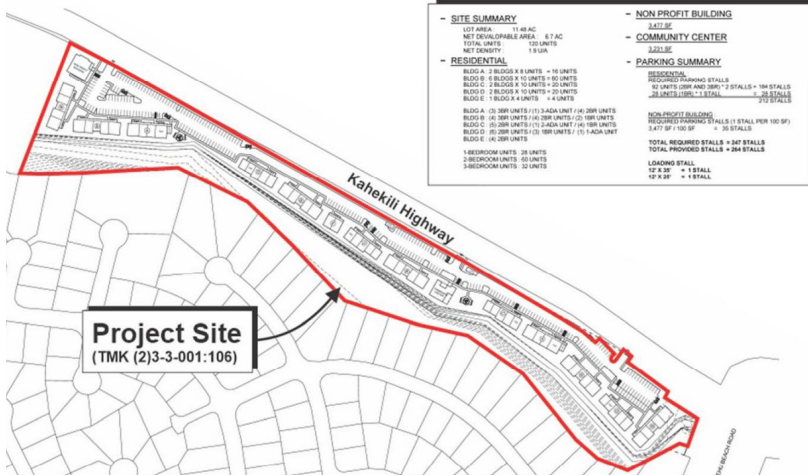


Proposed House District 8

The black line represents the proposed changes.

Hale Mahaolu Ke Kahua Affordable Housing Community

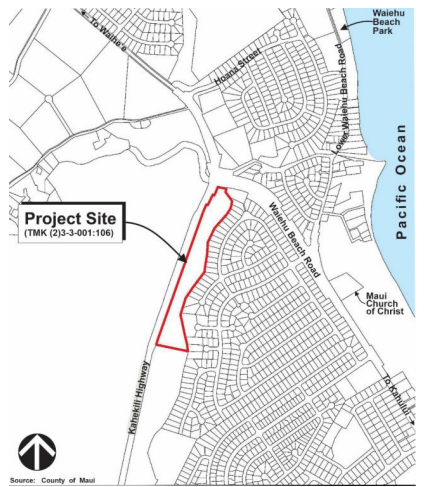
A proposed 100 percent affordable housing project called “Hale Mahaolu Ke Kahua” is slated to provide rental housing for households earning 60 percent or less of Maui County’s area median income. The project site is located at the intersection of Kahekili Highway. Waichu Beach Road is to the north, Waichu Heights to the east, while lands designated as the Piihana Project District lie to the south and west. This 11.476-acre parcel was conveyed to Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (MEO) in June of 2008 by Hawaii Land & Farming and will be developed in cooperation with Hale Mahaolu.



SITE SUMMARY	NON PROFIT BUILDING
LOT AREA: 11.476 AC	13 CLU
NET DEVELOPABLE AREA: 8.7 AC	COMMUNITY CENTER
TOTAL UNITS: 120 UNITS	13 CLU
NET DENSITY: 1.0 U/A	
RESIDENTIAL	PARKING SUMMARY
BUILD A: 2 BLDGS X 8 UNITS = 16 UNITS	60 UNITS (200 AND 200') = 100 STALLS
BUILD B: 2 BLDGS X 10 UNITS = 20 UNITS	10 UNITS (200 AND 200') = 20 STALLS
BUILD C: 2 BLDGS X 10 UNITS = 20 UNITS	10 UNITS (200 AND 200') = 20 STALLS
BUILD D: 1 BLDG X 4 UNITS = 4 UNITS	TOTAL PROVIDED STALLS = 264 STALLS
BUILD E: 10 UNITS (200 AND 200') = 10 UNITS	
BUILD F: 10 UNITS (200 AND 200') = 10 UNITS	NON PROFIT BUILDING
BUILD G: 10 UNITS (200 AND 200') = 10 UNITS	REQUIRED PARKING STALLS (1 STALL PER 100 SF)
BUILD H: 10 UNITS (200 AND 200') = 10 UNITS	3,477 SF / 100 SF = 35 STALLS
BUILD I: 10 UNITS (200 AND 200') = 10 UNITS	TOTAL REQUIRED STALLS = 407 STALLS
BUILD J: 10 UNITS (200 AND 200') = 10 UNITS	TOTAL PROVIDED STALLS = 264 STALLS
BUILD K: 10 UNITS (200 AND 200') = 10 UNITS	
BUILD L: 10 UNITS (200 AND 200') = 10 UNITS	LOADING STALLS
BUILD M: 10 UNITS (200 AND 200') = 10 UNITS	10' X 30' = 1 STALL
BUILD N: 10 UNITS (200 AND 200') = 10 UNITS	10' X 30' = 1 STALL
1 BEDROOM UNITS: 28 UNITS	
2 BEDROOM UNITS: 60 UNITS	
3 BEDROOM UNITS: 32 UNITS	

3,477 square foot (sq. ft.) non-profit building, a 3,231 sq. ft. clubhouse, landscaping, and related improvements. A total of 264 parking stalls and two (2) loading stalls will also be provided. Access to the project site will be provided by three (3) driveway entrances off Kahekili Highway. Approval is still required by the Maui County Council, which will include public testimony. The project is anticipated to be completed in 16 months once approved with an anticipated project cost of \$33.5 million.

For more information, view the draft environmental assessment located at: oec2.doh.hawaii.gov/The_Environmental_Notice/2021-09-23-TEN.pdf



REMINDER: New Real Property Long-Term Rental exemption and classification

The County of Maui Department of Finance’s Real Property Assessment Division announced that a new long-term rental classification and exemption has been established as part of the Maui County Code. *Effective Jan. 1, 2022*, real property occupied as a long-term rental, with a signed contract to lease for 12 consecutive months or longer to the same tenant, may qualify an owner for an exemption of up to \$200,000.

Real property rented on a long-term basis (12 consecutive months or longer) without a home exemption, will be eligible for the \$200,000 long-term rental exemption and will be classified as a "Long-term rental". Real property that already has a home exemption but also qualifies for the long-term rental exemption will be eligible for an additional \$100,000 exemption and will be classified as "Owner-occupied".

The long-term rental exemption may be allowed on more than one home if located on separate parcels. If a portion of the property is used for commercial purposes, that portion will not qualify for long-term rental exemption. If property taxes are delinquent for more than a year, no long-term rental exemption will be allowed. Any change in the actual use of real property with a long-term rental exemption must be reported by the owner within 30 days of that change.



The application form must be filed by **Dec. 31, 2021**, along with a signed copy of a lease contract to qualify for the 2022 tax year. The long-term rental exemption application form can be found at www.mauipropertytax.com. Property owners may contact the Real Property Assessment Division by calling (808) 270-7297 with any questions, or by email at rpa@co.maui.hi.us

Reapportionment Commission Community Hearing Dates

Lahaina
December 6, 2021:
6:00 p.m.
Via Zoom:
<https://zoom.us/j/91917133053>
Meeting ID:
919 1713 3053

Kahului
December 7, 2021:
6:00 p.m.
Via Zoom:
<https://zoom.us/j/95230840970>
Meeting ID:
952 3084 0970

Each public hearing will seek to focus on a particular geographic area, but the public may provide comment on any aspect of the Proposed Legislative Plan or Proposed Congressional Plan.

Testimony with full name may be submitted before any public hearing to the Chair of the 2021 Reapportionment Commission at 802 Lehua Avenue, Pearl City, HI 96782 or by email at reapportionment@hawaii.gov



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 /rephashimoto

 @reptroyhashimoto

COVID-19 Vaccine Updates

Boosters

The Hawai'i Department of Health (DOH) is adopting new guidelines from U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on COVID-19 booster vaccinations. Effective immediately all adults age 18 and older who completed their primary mRNA vaccinations of Pfizer or Moderna at least six months ago are eligible for boosters.

The following recipients of a completed series of either Pfizer or Moderna are **highly recommended** to receive a single COVID-19 booster dose:

- People aged 50 years and older
- Adults in long term care settings

All other persons aged 18 and older who received of a completed series of Pfizer or Moderna **are eligible to** receive a single COVID-19 booster dose.

Boosters are also recommended for anyone who received Johnson & Johnson's COVID-19 vaccine more than two months ago.

Evidence reviewed by the CDC shows a completed primary series of Pfizer and Moderna vaccines offer significant protection against hospitalization and death. That protection diminishes over time. Booster vaccinations provide additional protection by reenergizing our natural defense systems.

Vaccines available for children

Following FDA guidance, the Hawai'i Department of Health authorized vaccination providers to administer Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine for children age 5-11. Select schools will offer clinics and parents should contact their child's school directly for more information.

Parents / legal guardians are required to submit signed consent forms before anyone 17 and younger can be vaccinated.

Information on where vaccines are available will be updated regularly at
<https://hawaiiicovid19.com/vaccine/> or
www.mauinuistrong.info/covid19-info-vaccination-faq



The Nisei Veterans Memorial Center in Wailuku and the Daniel K. Inouye Institute hosted a viewing event as the USS Daniel K. Inouye passed Kahului harbor on its maiden voyage to Pearl Harbor, where it will be commissioned on Dec. 8th.



Members of the House of Representatives recently visited Native Nursery in Kula, Maui to learn about their operations. They are a current contractor to grow Limes for Mahi Pono.