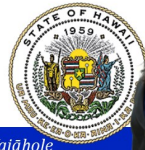


State Representative
**LISA
KITAGAWA**



Proudly Serving Kāneʻohe to Waiāhole

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Stay Connected!

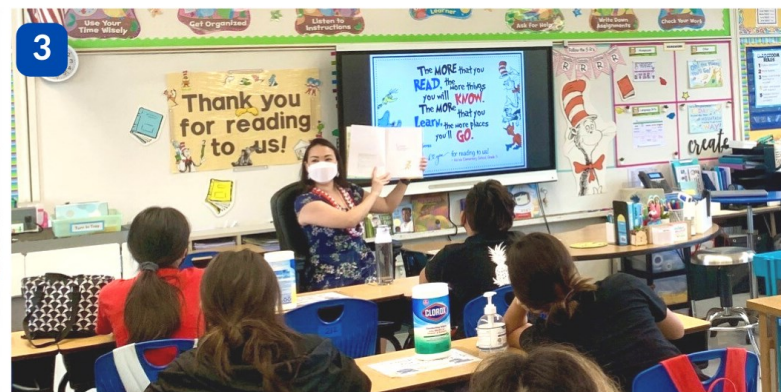
Subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter by emailing or calling my office.

Our Friends at:
Address
City, State Zip Code

LEGISLATIVE & COMMUNITY UPDATES INSIDE!

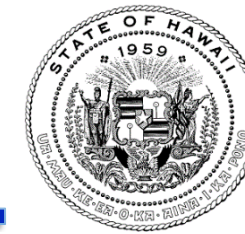
In Our Community

- 1) Receiving the Ke Ali'i Bernice Pauahi Bishop 2021 Windward Mall Award of Excellence for Community Support.
- 2) Attending the Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i Youth Council's Slipper Day donation drive at Windward Mall.
- 3) Visiting He'eia Elementary School to read Dr. Seuss's *Oh the Places You'll Go!* for Reading Across America Day.



CAPITOL UPDATE

Representative Lisa Kitagawa



March 2022

Aloha,

It has been a challenging past couple of years with the COVID-19 pandemic. However, I am happy that it seems like we are finally moving forward and getting back to some sort of normalcy with the end of COVID-19 restrictions and mask mandates. I hope that all of you have remained healthy and safe during these very difficult times. This newsletter highlights some legislative and community updates that I hope you find informative. To stay up-to-date with other legislative and community updates, please subscribe to my weekly e-newsletter by contacting my office (repkitagawa@capitol.hawaii.gov, 808-586-8540). Please don't hesitate to contact my office if you need assistance, or have questions or concerns. Take care.

Lisa

LEGISLATIVE HOT TOPICS

These highlighted issues represent some of the discussions happening at the Legislature this year. If you would like assistance with tracking and/or submitting testimony for legislation, contact my office!

FIREWORKS

HB2273: subjects violators of the Fireworks Control Law to **noise pollution citations**.

HB2275: establishes an **expeditious** adjudication system for processing fireworks infractions.

HB1695: increases fines for fireworks violations from \$2,000 to **\$5,000**.



HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

SB2371: establishes a working group to create a **statewide information system** to collect data related to homelessness in the State.



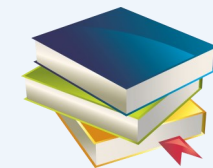
HB2233/SB2150: authorizes DHS to provide **housing assistance subsidies** of up to **\$500/month** to TANF and TAONF participants in the First-To-Work program.

HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

HB2511: provides **\$600,000,000** to assist the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands in providing housing for Native Hawaiians.

EDUCATION

HB1731: makes higher education more accessible by expanding and funding the **Hawai'i Promise Scholarship Program**.



KŪPUNA CARE

SB3113: expands the **Kūpuna Care Program** and adds services for care recipients and caregivers.

HB1822: extends the **driver license renewal** period from 2 to 4 years for licensees 72-79 years of age.

MINIMUM WAGE & TAX RELIEF

HB2510: Increases the minimum wage incrementally to **\$18/hr by 2028**, increases the tip credit, makes the **Earned Income Tax Credit** refundable & permanent.



ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH

HB2195: establishes a **Cesspool Compliance Pilot Grant Project** to assist low and moderate-income property owners with the costs of cesspool upgrades, conversions, or connections.

Underground Fuel Storage Tanks (Red Hill): **HB2274** prohibits the **issuance and renewal** of certain underground fuel storage tanks.

HB2514 prohibits the **operation** of certain underground fuel storage tanks.

KĀNE'OHE JOINT OUTREACH CENTER UPDATES

GET INVOLVED: KĀNE'OHE ORGANIZATIONS

As the 3-year pilot program comes to an end in July, plans for the future of the KJOC are already on their way. Thank you to H4 for doing a wonderful job of managing this project, and all of the funders and supporters for contributing to such an important initiative. Our office will continue to provide you with updates on the continuation of services at the Kāne'ohe Joint Outreach Center.

CONTACT THE KJOC
If you know of someone who needs assistance or need to report a homelessness concern, call 808-234-KJOC

FUTURE PARTNERS

Due to COVID-19 and concerns for spread through close contact, the KJOC pivoted services to focus on street medicine - meeting people where they are at, instead of waiting for people to come to the clinic for medical services. Since this model has been so successful, Waimānalo Health Center has agreed to continue servicing the Windward area after the pilot program comes to a close. The Institute for Human Services will continue to provide services, and Kōkua Kalihi Valley will join as an additional partner at the KJOC.



RENOVATIONS

With the \$3 million received in capital improvement project funding from the state last year to renovate the Kāne'ohe Civic Center (where the KJOC is housed), we are planning to turn the building into a one-stop center. Located at the Center will be the Department of Human Services, a location for the KJOC to continue, space for community court, and even possibly a shower and laundry facility.

In our recent community survey, many community members indicated that sustainability and environmental protection are top priorities for them. While advancing legislation is crucial for the long-term wellness of our 'āina, hands-on work can be done to make a difference now! I have included information on volunteer opportunities in our community below. (*Please visit the organization's website to RSVP for Volunteer Events)

46-406 Kamehameha Highway
(808) 741-3403 | kakooiwi.org

KAKO'O 'OIWI



Kāko'o 'Ōiwi is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting social and economic advancement of the local community by restoring the food-producing lands and water of He'eia to perpetuate the heritage, values, traditions, and practices of mahi'ai 'ana (farming, cultivation).

Saturday Community Workdays: 1st Saturdays from 8am - 12pm
Tasks include weeding and maintenance of lo'i and auwai.

Lo'i Workdays: Mondays, Tuesdays & Fridays from 9am - 12pm
Tasks include weeding, planting and harvesting.

Wetland Workdays: Tuesdays from 8:30am - 12pm

Tasks include removing invasive plants, planting native plants, & clearing waterways.

PAEPAE O HE'EIA

Paepae o He'eia is a non-profit organization dedicated to caring for the ancient Hawaiian He'eia Fishpond. They strive to perpetuate cultural sustainability by utilizing the fishpond as an educational model.

Saturday Community Workdays: Every 2nd & 4th Saturday from 8am - 12pm
Tasks include reconstruction of the kuapā, removing invasive species, and more.

Weekday Community Workdays: Variable Weekdays from 8am - 12pm

Tasks include wall building, hauling rocks/coral, removing mangroves, and more.

46-077 'Ipuka Street
(808) 236-6178 | paepaeoheiea.org



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION UPDATES

Earlier this year, I met with DOT to share community concerns with them regarding our bad road conditions. I am happy to share that your concerns have been heard and DOT will start road improvement projects this year.

WHEN WILL LIKELIKE HIGHWAY BE REPAVED?

The Likelike Highway Resurfacing project will repave and reconstruct the highway in both directions between the Wilson Tunnel and Emmeline Place. Construction is anticipated in April 2022, and DOT will continue to address the road with pothole repairs until the project is completed.

WHEN WILL KAHEKILI HIGHWAY (NEAR HUI IWA ST) BE REPAVED?

The area was initially scheduled for repairs in 2025. However, the inclement weather has degraded the route significantly, moving it up in priority for repairs. The project is now planned for construction starting in Winter 2022, and will extend to the route fronting the Hygienic Store.

IS THE ROUNDABOUT AT THE HYGIENIC STORE STILL MOVING FORWARD?

Yes, the project is currently in the design stage. DOT will begin public outreach in April 2022 to share information and engage with the community.

WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE WAIĀHOLE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT?

Last year, my office helped to secure \$9,500,000 for the much needed replacement of Waiāhole Bridge along Kamehameha Highway. I am happy to announce that the funds have been released by the Governor and plans for this project are currently being developed by the DOT.

ROAD REPORT HOTLINES



STATE EMAIL: mwclerk@hawaii.gov
CITY WEBSITE: honolulu.gov/dfm

46-403 Ha'ikū Road
(808) 447-7694 | papahanakualoa.org

PAPAHANA KUAOLA



Papahana Kuaola is a non-profit organization committed to developing models for economic sustainability and environmental health based on Native Hawaiian knowledge. Their multi-faceted education programs in He'eia help to achieve a culturally sustainable future.

Community Workdays: Every 3rd & 4th Saturday from 9am- 12pm
Tasks on the 3rd Saturday typically include stream work, such as removing invasive plants and fish. Tasks on the 4th Saturday typically include land work, such as taro restoration and clearing hiking trails.

WAIKALUA LOKO I'A

Waikalua Loko I'a is an ancient fishpond in Kāne'ohe that is utilized today as an outdoor classroom for students, educators, visitors, and the broader community. Their goal is to teach Native Hawaiian practices that can help us live in harmony with the land and sea.

Saturday La 'Ohana Days: Apr. 30, Jul. 16, Sep. 10 & Nov. 19 from 7am - 12pm
Tasks include removing limu, clearing mangroves, and other restorative work.

45-231 Kulauli Street
(808) 664-3027 | thepaf.org

