

FROM THE OFFICE OF

SENATOR STANLEY CHANG

East Honolulu Community Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2017

Aloha friends and neighbors,

As we begin the 29th session of the state legislature, I am deeply humbled by the opportunity to serve the people of East Honolulu in the Hawaii State Senate.

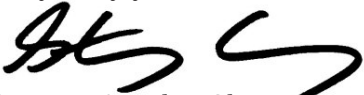
This year, for the first time in our state's history, and for the first time in the nation in more than 30 years, I serve in a legislative body with only one party. That's why it's more important than ever to ensure we represent everyone—by making a special effort to reach out to our constituents, by engaging as many different viewpoints as possible in the legislative process. This is my first pledge as a Senator, and my office has already begun, by mailing a constituent survey to the whole district to solicit feedback on policy and district-related matters.

With respect to policy, there should be no higher matter on the agenda than homelessness. Knocking on 16,000 doors throughout East Honolulu, this top issue for our district was made overwhelmingly clear. Even though East Honolulu may not be one of the traditional hotspots for homelessness, it affects our entire state and every member of our community. We will fight for tangible results in dealing with this issue. That includes an expansion of Housing First and other efforts to house people who need it and mobile clinics to diagnose and treat the homeless with medical issues. As vice chair of the Human Services Committee, this will be my top priority for the session.

I got into public service because I wanted to make a difference in the lives of the average individual like myself and my parents. My parents came to America from China. My father became a professor at the University of Hawaii, and my mother became a teacher at Kalani High School. They were able to put my brother and me through school and give us opportunities that would have been impossible in China. Today, those opportunities are becoming more and more difficult for today's young people. We must fight to ensure that Hawaii remains a great place for every generation—20, 50, 100 years from now.

I look forward to working with people across the spectrum to make our community a better place for us and for future generations. I believe that together we can accomplish great things.

Very truly yours,



Senator Stanley Chang



▶ CALL US

586-8420

▶ CONTACT US

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▶ HANDY PHONE NUMBERS

Pothole Hotline

768-7777

Abandoned Vehicles

733-2530

Building Permit

768-5555

Trash Collection

768-3200

Street Light Repair

768-5300

IN THE COMMUNITY



Planting Promise Garden Flowers for Alzheimer's Awareness

► On Jan. 31, 2017, Alzheimer's Advocacy Day, Sen. Chang joined the Alzheimer's Association of Hawaii in planting one of hundreds of purple, paper Promise Garden Flowers at the State Capitol.



Sen. Chang shares advice and experiences with ASUH, the Student Government at UH Manoa.

► On Nov. 29, 2016, the Senator met with Associated Students of the University of Hawaii members to discuss legislative priorities and how students can get involved in the legislative process.



Lunar New Year Dinner with the Hawaii Mainland Chinese Overseas Association

► On Jan. 29, 2017, Sen. Chang, along with Rep. Calvin Say and Councilmember Carol Fukunaga, presented certificates to the Hawaii Mainland Chinese Association at a Lunar New Year Function at Empress Restaurant.



Sen. Chang and guests at Opening Day of the Legislature

► On Jan. 20, 2017, Senator Chang, along with fellow guests, opened the 2017 Legislative Session. This will be the 29th Legislature in our State's history.

GET INVOLVED



Filing to run for a seat is easy...

Become an active part of democracy and help strengthen our community. Help our neighborhoods run more smoothly! File to run for a seat on your Neighborhood Board.

- ▶ Apply online or by mail
- ▶ Online form is available at www.honolulu.gov/nco
- ▶ Pick up a paper form at the **Neighborhood Commission Office at Kapalama Hale**
- ▶ Deadline to submit voter registration form: **February 17, 2017**
- ▶ Mailed forms must be post-marked by February 17 and received by **February 24, 2017**

Still have questions?

Contact the Neighborhood Commission Office for assistance. Visit their website, or call the office at:

(808) 768-3710



A meeting of the Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board. Get involved in your Neighborhood Board this year.

Join Your Neighborhood Board in 2017

Oahu residents can now file to run for a seat on their neighborhood board by applying online at www2.honolulu.gov/nbe or by completing and submitting a candidate registration form. Printed copies are available at the Neighborhood Commissions Office at Kapalama Hale, 925 Dillingham Boulevard Suite 160 and the Department of Customer Services Public Information Center at the Mission Memorial Building, at 550 South King Street.

Candidate is open to Oahu residents who will be at least 18 years of age by February 17, 2017. The deadline to apply as a candidate is Feb. 17, 2017. Mailed forms must be postmarked by the deadline date and received by February 24, 2017.

Voting begins on April 28, 2017, and ends on May 17, 2017. Elected board members serve a two year term, starting on July 1, 2017. Voters will elect 437 neighborhood board representatives to serve on 33 neighborhood boards.

Oahu Residents who have voted in the 2016 primary or general elections are automatically registered to vote in the 2017 Neighborhood Board Elections.

Other residents, including military personnel and family members, legal resident aliens, and students, who will be at least 18 years of age by February 17, 2017, may register to vote in the Neighborhood Board elections by submitting a neighborhood board voter registration form.

The mission of the Neighborhood Board System is to increase and assure effective citizen participation in the decisions of government. Oahu's Neighborhood Board System is the only government sponsored civic engagement system in the State of Hawaii. While they are advisory, board activities may include study and review of capital improvement projects and zoning concerns. They may also conduct educational programs on governmental decision making processes and establish community goals, objectives, and priorities.

More information about the election and neighborhood boards can be found on the NCO website at www.honolulu.gov/nco.

LEGISLATIVE TRACKER



What are your issues?

In January, we mailed you a questionnaire to survey our community on your top priorities this Legislative session. Please remember to fill out and return your survey as soon as possible. Sen. Chang will use your feedback to inform his decisions as your champion in the Senate.

If you have questions or would like to send feedback directly to our office, please call: **808-586-8420**



Making the fight to end homelessness a priority this legislative session

After knocking on thousands of doors in 2016, Senator Chang has heard your concerns. That's why, this legislative session, we've made homelessness a top priority. As the Vice-Chair of Human Services in the Hawaii State Senate, Sen. Chang is uniquely positioned to help affect the change you seek. Here are a list of bills relating to homelessness that the Senator has introduced:

- ▶ **SB 158:** Requires Governor to establish puuhonua safe zones where homeless persons may reside.
- ▶ **SB 268:** Appropriates funds to the department of human services to study the impact and feasibility of creating an integrated database of certain information related to homeless individuals for providers of homeless services.
- ▶ **SB 271:** Makes appropriations to DHS, DOH, and DOT to assist with homelessness and housing issues.
- ▶ **SB 347:** Appropriates funds for establishing, staffing, and operating two mobile clinics to serve the homeless population.



Follow-up on the Kalaniana'ole Water Main Break

On Feb. 6, Sen. Stanley Chang hosted a community town hall regarding the water main break on Kalaniana'ole Highway Jan. 21 – 25, which disrupted many of our daily commutes. The Board of Water Supply, Honolulu Police Department, City Department of Transportation Services, State Department of Transportation, and the City Department of Facility Maintenance have agreed to hear the concerns of our residents, so please send our office your concerns, solutions, and opinions on how to better handle a similar situation in the future.

Please contact our office at **808-586-8420** with your feedback.



From the Office of
Sen. Stanley Chang

Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 223
415 S. Beretania St.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

SENATOR STANLEY CHANG

East Honolulu Community Newsletter

MARCH 2017

Ensuring Free Traffic Movement and Safety

From January 21-25, a water main break at Kalanianaʻole Highway and Ainakoa Avenue left drivers stranded for hours. Many residents contacted our office regarding the traffic to voice their frustration over the lack of communication and the congestion of the area.

Last month we hosted a town hall meeting regarding traffic mitigation and how to handle similar situations in the future. We would like to thank the Board of Water Supply, Honolulu Police Department, Honolulu City Department of Transportation Services, the City Department of Facility Maintenance, and members of the community for participating.

We all understand the inevitability of incidents that cause traffic congestion, whether it is fallen trees, light poles, VIP motorcades, or water main breaks. One of the main concerns that we addressed during the meeting was that there was not a specific agency responsible for studying traffic flow and working on ways to mitigate the inevitable incidents that cause extreme traffic congestion.

To prepare for future events, we introduced resolutions SR 22 and SCR 64 that would address the concerns of the community, and hopefully ease the traffic congestion. The resolutions call for the creation of a Traffic Crisis Planning and Mitigation Coordination Group, which would be collaboratively responsible for working on effective traffic mitigation. It is only by preparation, coordination and communication can we ensure the public that the State and City will effectively handle events like the next Kalanianaʻole Highway/H-1 water main break.

Very truly yours,



Senator Stanley Chang



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IN THE COMMUNITY



Members of the 29th Senate of Hawai'i

► On January 18 Senator Chang along with his fellow Senators started the 29th Legislative Session.



Sen. Chang and Staff with U.S. Senator Mazie Hirono.

► On Feb 22, 2017 Waialae resident Senator Mazie Hirono met with Sen. Chang and staff to discuss issues impacting the state at the federal level, and how youth can get involved.



Meeting with Ted Fukushima - Retired Kaiser High School Athletic Director

► On Jan. 20, 2017, Sen. Chang met with Mr. Ted Fukushima to discuss ways to continue to improve and expand the school's infrastructure and facilities.



Kalaniana'ole Athletic Club

► It's baseball season! Senator Chang along with Rep. Mark Hashem attended the opening day of the Kalaniana'ole Athletic Club season at Aina Haina Community Park

GET INVOLVED



Hawai'i now offers texting to 911!

- ▶ Requires a text enabled/capable cellular phone.
- ▶ It's necessary that Location Services settings are enabled.
- ▶ Text messages only. No group messages, photos, videos or emojis will be accepted.
- ▶ Text messages must be brief and easily understood.
- ▶ Use plain English. No abbreviations, short cuts or slangs.
- ▶ Text to 9-1-1 service may not be available everywhere at all times.
- ▶ No guarantee a text message will be sent or received.

For more information, visit

www.hawaiiextto911.com



Recently cleared East Niu Stream

Niu Stream Vegetation Cleared

A perennial issue affecting East Honolulu's streams and canals is inadequate maintenance. When streams and canals are not cleared regularly, vegetation and debris accumulate in the stream bed, raising the level of the stream bed and exacerbating flood conditions during heavy storms. Due to your complaints and requests, we worked with the City to have Niu Stream cleared of vegetation in February.

We are currently working on maintenance at Kamiloiki Stream, Kuliouou Stream, and Wailupe Stream. A special mahalo to the hard working crew at the City and County for taking care of East Honolulu.

Free Tax Clinic

Eligible taxpayers can have their federal and state tax return prepared for free by IRS-certified volunteers.

April 1, 2017, 9:00am - 2:30pm

Hawaii State Capitol (415 South Beretania Street) Room 329

For more information & to RSVP call **808-724-2436** (limited appointments available).

www.HawaiiTaxHelp.org

info@hawaii taxhelp.org

Hosted by: Hawaii VITA Financial Empowerment Coalition & HI Alliance for Community Based Economic Development

LEGISLATIVE TRACKER



Left to right: Ian Ross, Kaniela Peters-Clark (Campbell High School Junior), Nathan Okubo, and Senator Stanley Chang.

Youth and Public Policy

This session, Senator Chang introduced SB 1220, which would establish a Youth Advisory Commission within the Office of Youth Services to advise the government and legislature on issues relating to youth. The Youth Advisory Commission is modeled on the very successful youth commission chartered by the city of San Francisco in 1995. Some of the accomplishments in San Francisco include establishing a free transit pass for low and moderate income youth and expanding summer job opportunities for youth 16-24. The Youth Advisory Commission will be the venue for giving young people a voice and a seat at the policy-making table.



Left to right: Vice Speaker John Mizuno, Sen. Josh Green, Mrs. & Mr. Pankaj Bhanot, Sen. Breene Harimoto, Sen. Stanley Chang, and Sen. Glenn Wakai.

Confirmation of Department of Human Services Director Pankaj Bhanot

On February 15, 2017, Pankaj Bhanot, Director nominee for the Department of Human Services, the largest state government department by budget, attended his confirmation hearing before the Senate Committee on Human Services. During the hearing, testifiers unanimously came out in support for Bhanot, including current and former colleagues and other state and local officials. Bhanot shared his moving story of surviving hardship growing up in India and how his grandmother inspired him to go into a life of public service. The committee voted unanimously to confirming Bhanot as Director.

Mahalo!

Sen. Stanley Chang



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Sen. Stanley Chang

Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 223
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East Honolulu Community Newsletter

APRIL 2017

Getting Reimbursed for Pothole Damage to Your Car!



The City and State have established phone numbers and websites where anyone can report a pothole. All you need to do is to report the pothole to the hotlines below with the location of the pothole and jurisdiction:

City maintained roads: **808-768-7777**

HART maintained roads: **808-566-2299**

State maintained roads: **808-536-7852**

Potholes can cause a lot of damage, such as a flat tire, cracked wheel, or even body damage. If your car is damaged by a pothole, you can be reimbursed by the City or the State.

Claims on roads maintained by the City: goo.gl/UE64Rb

Claims on roads maintained by the State: goo.gl/ueTbwV

To file a claim, take a photo of the pothole and the damage to your car. The person filing the claim should have the vehicle registration and insurance in their name. At the time of the incident, the person should call HPD to file a police report. The driver should also send over receipts or invoices of payment for the damages along with the claim. After filing these claims, it may take several months before you will be reimbursed.



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IN THE COMMUNITY



Opening of the Culinary Institute of the Pacific

► March 3, 2017 Senator Chang attended the opening reception of Phase 1 of the new Culinary Institute of the Pacific, adjacent to the Kapiolani Community College.



Wilson Elementary 5th Grade Class Visits the Capitol

► On March 16, 2017, the 5th graders of Wilson Elementary visited the Hawai'i State Capitol to learn about the legislative process and the history of the building.



Meeting with Hawaii State Student Council

► On March 11, 2017 Senator Stanley Chang addressed the Hawaii High School State Student Council, a group composed of representatives from all the DOE high schools, to discuss youth involvement in policy making and the possibility of establishing a Youth Advisory Commission.



Hawaii Says NO MORE Challenge

► On March 9, 2017 Senator Chang along with fellow Senators participated in the Hawaii Says NO MORE challenge. The challenge raises awareness of ending domestic violence and sexual assault.

GET INVOLVED



Honolulu 311 App

- ▶ The Honolulu 311 smartphone app is available on iPhone and Android.
- ▶ It is easy to report potholes, sidewalk repairs, broken street lights, illegal dumping, graffiti, damaged signs, and much more!
- ▶ Using the camera on your phone and GPS Location Services, the City can keep track of the details of your issue.
- ▶ It is free, it is easy to use, and allows YOU to make a difference in our community.
- ▶ Download it for free from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store by searching "Honolulu 311."



Hawaii Kai Satellite City Hall at Hawaii Kai Towne Center

Hawaii Kai Satellite City Hall Here to Stay

The Hawaii Kai Satellite City Hall located at the Hawaii Kai Towne Center has extended its lease with the center until August 31, 2021. The city hall has been at the Hawaii Kai Corporate Plaza since 2002, and has been a convenient location for renewing driver's licenses, paying property tax bills, and accessing other city services for East Honolulu residents. Often, its lines are shorter than the Satellite City Halls at Ala Moana Shopping Center or elsewhere.

The Hawaii Kai Satellite City Hall is located at 6800 Kalaniana'ole Highway and is open Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

9th Annual Art at the Capitol



We invite the public to come down to the State Capitol on First Friday and enjoy the art work in lawmakers' offices. View a new documentary on artist Marianna Pineda on making the landmark Queen Lili'uokalani Statue.

**Friday, April 7, 2017,
4:30PM - 7:00PM**

**Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Room 223**

Honolulu Rail Transit Project Open House Event



Aina Haina Public Library
Saturday, May 6, 2017
1:00PM to 4:00PM
5246 Kalaniana'ole Hwy

The Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation invites you to join us for information displays and keiki activities. Each area will be staffed by a member of the HART or Contractor team who will be available for discussion and questions.

- ▶ View video displays of our station renderings and the entire rail route from a “fly over” perspective.
- ▶ Participate in fun keiki activities including puzzles, rail trivia bingo, train bookmarks and more.
- ▶ Get project updates regarding the rail guideway and stations being built along the Project route.

This event is free and family friendly with no formal presentation, so the public may stop in anytime. Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information, please call our 24-hour Project Hotline at **(808) 566-2299** or visit our project website online at:

HonoluluTransit.org

LEGISLATIVE TRACKER



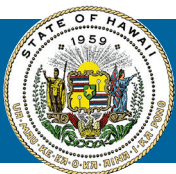
Prescribing Housing for the Homeless – SB 2

A number of bills related to homelessness—our top policy priority this session—passed third reading in the Senate and House, and have crossed over to the other chamber. Among the most innovative bills concerning homelessness is SB 2, introduced by Senator Josh Green.

SB 2 initiates a study to assess the impact of using Medicaid funds to provide housing services for the homeless. Today, Medicaid and our hospitals spend hundreds of millions of dollars on emergency treatment for the small fraction of the population that is homeless. These costs can run into the hundreds of thousands of dollars for each homeless person, as every ambulance trip and every night in an ICU costs thousands of dollars.

Simply giving housing to the homeless would stabilize their conditions and reduce their consumption of medical services by 43 percent, according to Helping Hands Hawaii. That would save the taxpayer and the hospitals significant sums, enable many of the homeless to be housed, and reduce the impact of homelessness on our communities: a win-win-win.

Under the proposed law, doctors may prescribe housing depending on the severity of the case, and the individual must be homeless for at least six months and suffer from a mental illness or a substance addiction.



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East Honolulu Community Newsletter

MAY 2017

Kalaniana'ole Highway – Resurfacing to Begin

We are pleased to announce, after many years of concerns raised about the degradation of the highway, that the last segment—Aina Haina to H-1—will be repaved. The paving is expected to begin in May or June with the goal of completing resurfacing in time for the back to school rush. Mahalo to the Department of Transportation and the many concerned citizens who brought attention to this issue.



No More Waiting at the DMV

The AlohaQ push-notification queuing system is designed to reduce wait times for DMV customers by allowing them to get in line online. Oahu residents can now book advance appointments from their mobile device or home computer at alohaq.org. All they will need is their name, mobile number, and transaction type. Each customer will receive an appointment ticket number and text reminder 15 minutes prior to the scheduled service time.

AlohaQ is currently at three of our nine Satellite City Halls: Kapalama, Pearlridge, and Wahiawa. The Department of Customer Services is hoping to offer AlohaQ at several more Satellites, including Hawaii Kai.

Go to alohaq.honolulu.gov to make your appointment today.



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▶ EMAIL US

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IN THE COMMUNITY



Hahaione Elementary School

► On March 16, 2017 Senator Chang visited Hahaione Elementary School for the 5th grade IB PYP (International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme) Exhibits.



Mental Health and Wellness Week

► April 10–14, 2017: Mental Health and Wellness Week at the University of Hawai'i, Mānoa. Senator Chang was invited to be the keynote speaker at a luncheon for students, where he discussed the mental health issues facing our state and the various programs the state offers.



Ka Iwi Coast Conservation

► On April 2, 2017, Senator Chang and a group of community members participated in conservation efforts of the endangered native Hawaiian yellow-faced bee.



Senator Chang Meets with AARP - Hawaii Family Caregivers Coalition

► On March 28, 2017 Senator Chang joined members of AARP to learn about services provided to our kupuna and discuss the Kupuna Caregivers Program (HB 607) which would allow caregivers to remain in the workforce.

YOUR CONCERNS

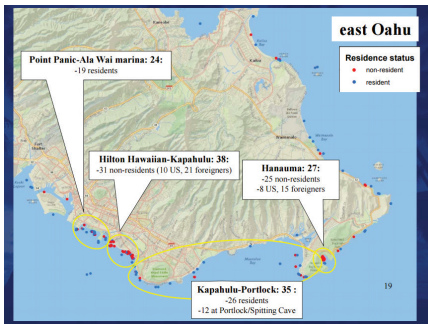


Project Co-Chairs Eric Kvick and Dr. Bill Modglin with Senator Stanley Chang at Maunaloa Bay.

Rescue Tubes for All

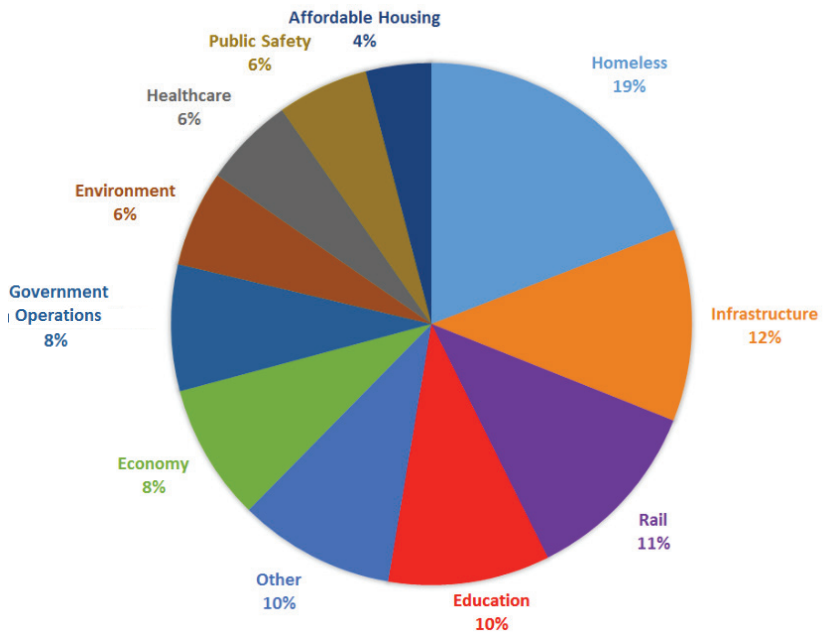
On April 29, 2017, the Lions Club of Hawaii Kai partnering with the Rescue Tube Foundation, distributed over 100 tubes to paddlers, boaters, firefighters, lifeguards, and community members. According to the Rescue Tube Foundation, "Rescue tubes are personal flotation devices designed to assist distressed swimmers until lifeguards arrive. They should only be used by strong swimmers following the instructions printed on the tube."

The Rescue Tube Foundation was founded by the Kaua'i Lions Club to address drowning deaths at the many remote beaches without lifeguards.



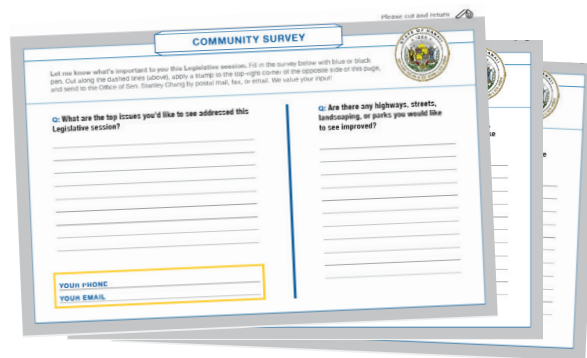
Map of East Honolulu drowning deaths from 2005-2014 (Hawaii Health Department <http://health.hawaii.gov/injuryprevention/files/2015/08/wsocon15a.pdf>)

Homelessness: Your Top Priority



Early this year, our office sent out a survey asking the community for their input regarding what they believe are the top issues of 2017. Our office compiled the over 300 returned surveys from the district and broke them down issue by issue.

Overall, homelessness took the top spot, while infrastructure and rail came in second and third. The Office of Senator Chang appreciates and values the input of our community members for their responses, which enable us to better serve the people of Senate District 9.



Please keep in mind that this is not a scientific survey. The surveys compiled were those voluntarily returned.



© Nate Yuen

Ka Iwi Coast Preserved Forever

On March 31, the Trust for Public Land conveyed the remaining two parcels totaling 182 acres of Ka Iwi coast to the community through the non-profit organization **Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui**. The organization now owns and will steward the land. Over the years, developers have proposed building resorts, luxury residential subdivisions, and vacation cabins. The latest deal was due to a combined effort from the City and County of Honolulu, State of Hawaii, and grassroots organization. The City contributed \$2.5 million, the State gave over \$1 million, and grassroots offered up \$600,000.

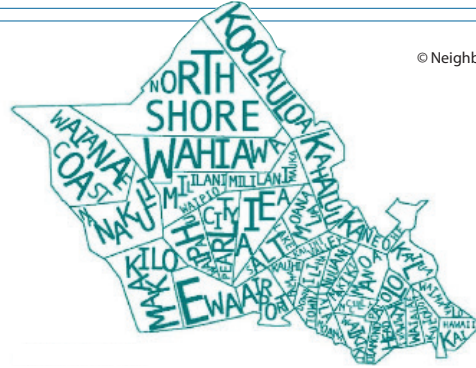
Ka Iwi Coast is special to many. Former President Barack Obama's mother's ashes are scattered beneath the sea cliffs, and he grew up body surfing at Sandy Beach. The coast is also popular among canoe paddlers, fishermen, and boaters, who use the scenic coastline as a key navigational landmark indicating the Ka Iwi channel between Oahu and Molokai.

This accomplishment is a clear example of how effective community organization is capable of making change. Due to the efforts, beautiful coast with a distinguished history is now preserved for future generations to come.

If you have questions or would like to send feedback directly to our office, please call: **808-586-8420**

Source: Livable Hawaii Kai Hui
<http://cloud2.snappages.com/51590760cb38f49d98fbb929c70cbda1afd0943c/TPL-HawaiiNewsRelease-KalwiClosing-040417%20FINAL.docx.pdf>

NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD ELECTIONS



© Neighborhood Commission Office

The Neighborhood Commission Office will be mailing passcodes to approximately 226,000 eligible voters who may cast ballots online for contested seats in the 2017 Neighborhood Board elections. Voters may use their passcodes to view candidate profiles and cast ballots at honolulu.gov/nbe via computer or mobile device from Friday April 28 to Friday May 19, 2017.

During the voting period, the city has also made computers available to the public to use to vote at these locations:

- ▶ **Kapolei Hale:** Conference Room A, 1000 Ulu'ohi'a Street *Monday thru Friday*
- ▶ **Kapalama Hale:** Suites 160, 925 Dillingham Boulevard *Monday thru Friday*
- ▶ **The KEY project in Kahalu'u:** 47200 Waihe'e Road, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. *Monday thru Friday*

▶ **Any public library** on Oahu within the Hawaii State Public Library System

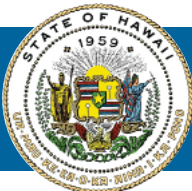
The NCO strongly encourages voting online as it saves paper and keeps costs down; however, you can request a paper ballot if you are unable to vote online. To request a ballot by mail, voters may call the ballot request hotline at 808-768-3763 no later than Monday May 15, 2017, 4:30 p.m. with your full name, address, and last four digits of your Social Security Number. Returned ballots must be postmarked by Friday, May 19, 2017 and received by the NCO no later than Friday May 26, 2017.

Online Voting closes at 11:59 p.m. on May 19, 2017. Election results will be announced shortly after voting concludes. Newly elected board members will assume office July 1, 2017.



April was **Prevent Child Abuse Month**. Members from Prevent Child Abuse America and members of the legislature placed pinwheels around the lawn of the Capitol to support kids across the country.

To learn more and to get involved with Prevent Child Abuse America visit: preventchildabuse.org



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JUNE 2017

Aloha friends,

The 2017 legislative session is officially over. Once again, I am humbled by the opportunity to represent you in the Hawaii State Senate.

I am proud of many of the actions we took, including funding for conserving Paiko Ridge in East Honolulu, Housing First for homelessness—a working group for innovative new shelters—new bathrooms at Aina Haina Elementary School, and a tax credit for working people. Many other issues will have to wait until next year. I was disappointed by the rail standoff, the failure of bills for automatic voter registration and a Youth Commission, deleting funding for Legal Aid Society and other nonprofit legal groups, and not raising the minimum wage.

I am even more determined to fight for you and our state. I look forward to hearing your feedback on the 2017 session, your ideas for next year, and to seeing how we can work together to improve our communities.

Very truly yours,



Senator Stanley Chang



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► **HANDY NUMBERS**

Pothole Hotline
808-768-7777

Abandoned Vehicles
808-733-2530

Building Permit
808-768-5555

Trash Collection
808-768-3200

Street Light Repair
808-768-5300

► **BILL DATABASE**

capitol.hawaii.gov
Search current bill status from the homepage.

IN THE COMMUNITY



International Workers' Day

► On May 1st, International Workers' Day, Senator Chang joined over 700 private and public sector workers at the State Capitol to listen to their concerns and priorities.



Kalani High School Seniors

► On May 17th, Kalani High School held its annual Awards Ceremony honoring graduating seniors for their outstanding hard work. Senator Chang joined Speaker Emeritus Calvin Say, Representative Mark Hashem, Principal Mitchell Otani, and students Brandon Stone and Koby Yoshimi.



Kalama Valley Roads

► On April 24th, Senator Chang met with residents and community leaders to discuss road conditions in Kalama Valley and the start of Phase 11C repavement.



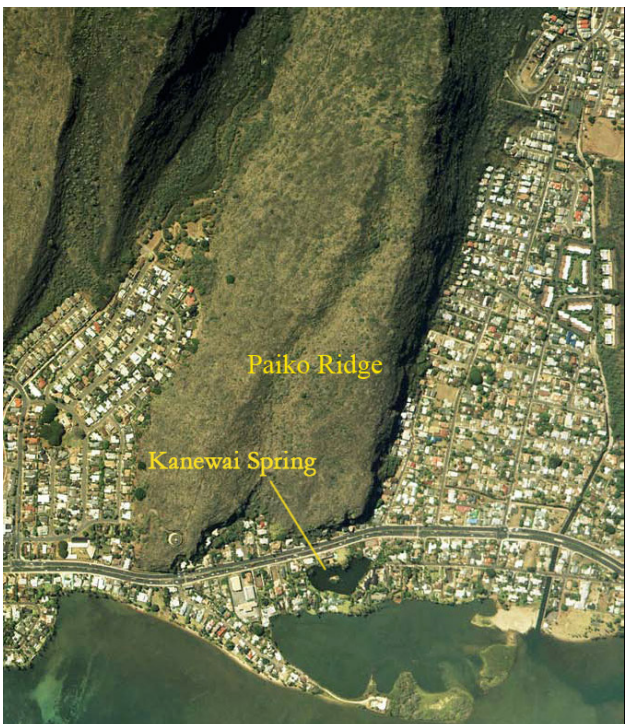
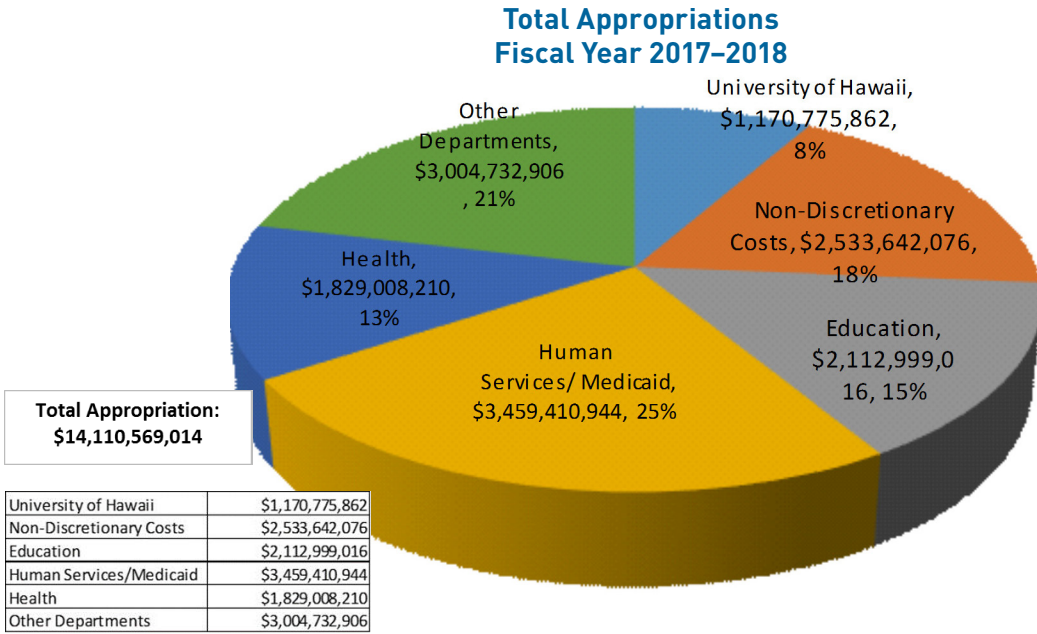
Kanewai Spring Preservation

► On May 17th, Senator Chang took a tour of Kanewai Spring (see image on opposite page) to learn about efforts to preserve and protect it.

YOUR CONCERNS

Fiscal Biennium 2017–2019

The Senate has passed a State Budget that appropriates \$14.1 billion in total operating funds for fiscal year 2018 and \$14.3 billion for fiscal year 2019. The budget includes \$2.9 billion for critical capital improvement projects (CIPs) in every county across the state. CIPs increase safety and improve, expand and maintain transportation, education and healthcare infrastructure.



Some 2018 highlights for District 9:

- ▶ **Paiko Ridge Conservation Zone**
\$1,000,000
To purchase a portion of Paiko Ridge, between Kuliouou and Hawaii Kai, for conservation purposes
- ▶ **Kapiolani Community College**
\$15,000,000
For constructing Phase II of the Culinary Institute of the Pacific
- ▶ **Waikiki Elementary School**
\$815,000
To cover electrical system upgrades, stage curtains, and other improvements
- ▶ **Aina Haina Elementary School**
\$500,000
To provide disability-compliant restrooms and other improvements

LEGISLATIVE TRACKER

2017 Session Highlights

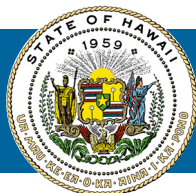
During the 29th Legislative Session, State lawmakers passed 230 bills that address the top concerns of residents statewide, ensure funding for the basic needs of our communities, and take steps to move the state forward toward being fiscally prepared and sustainable.

Here are some highlights of the bills passed this legislative session. These bills have been sent to Governor David Ige who has the option of signing them into law, vetoing the bills or he can allow them to become law without his signature.

To view the full text of these bills, go to capitol.hawaii.gov.



- **HB 290:** Establishes a state earned non-refundable income tax credit for low-income working people worth up to 20 percent of the federal earned income tax credit.
- **SB 718:** Establishes a community court outreach project in Honolulu to resolve cases involving non-violent, non-felony offenses, facilitating cases involving homeless persons.
- **SB 895:** Prohibits trespassing onto state highway property, such as underneath the HI at Waialae Avenue.
- **SB 559:** Requires reduction in greenhouse gas emissions statewide in alignment with the Paris Agreement.
- **HB 83:** Establishes a working group to examine safe zones for homeless persons.
- **HB 607:** Establishes the Kupuna Caregivers Program to assist community members in obtaining care for elderly family members while remaining in the workforce.
- **HB 552:** Establishes the Affordable Health Insurance Working Group to plan for and mitigate adverse effects of the potential repeal of the federal Affordable Care Act by Congress.
- **HB 115:** Requires the City and County of Honolulu to take ownership over roads with disputed ownership.



From the Office of

Senator Stanley Chang

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 223
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

FROM THE OFFICE OF

SENATOR STANLEY CHANG

East Honolulu Community Newsletter

JULY 2017

Kalama Valley Road Repaving

Since Senator Chang was on the City Council, he has been pushing for funding to repave the streets in our neighborhoods, such as Kalama Valley. The City has repaved more than 1,447 lane miles since it was announced in January 2013. While adjacent communities such as Kamehame Ridge had been repaved years ago, the much needed resurfacing work in Kalama Valley had been put on hold due to delays with Hawaiian Electric's underground utility work. After awaiting resurfacing for over 15 years, on Monday April 24th, the City began repaving work in Kalama Valley.



Road and Highway Builders, LLC has been contracted to complete the project, which includes cold planing reconstruction and resurfacing of the asphalt roadway. Pre-paving activities include reconstruction of identified curbs, gutters and driveways; installation of new storm drain inlets; and tree trimming, root pruning or removal as identified and coordinated by the city's arborist.

Work hours for the project will be from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, and residents and businesses are advised that on-street parking will be prohibited at all time. Signs will be placed around the area to remind drivers that certain areas will be tow-away zones. The contractor is responsible for coordinating local traffic for residents, mail, trash collection, TheBus, emergency services and business deliveries during construction. The project has started at the back of the valley and will make its way down Kalama Valley.

The resurfacing work is expected to be completed by the end of August, with additional post paving work until the end of the year. Post-paving activities include the adjustment of utilities to finish grade, installation of permanent pavement markings, and replacement of vehicle loop sensors.

"Kalama Valley residents have patiently waited for this repaving project for more than two decades. Many roads have been badly degraded by traffic from heavy vehicles, and repaving will significantly improve the daily quality of life for everyone in Kalama Valley." –Senator Stanley Chang

Road and Highway Builders, LLC will make every effort to minimize the inconvenience, and the City greatly appreciates your assistance, support, patience and cooperation. Any questions about this project should be directed to Road and Highway Builders, LLC at **808-691-9401**.



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Current Bill Status
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IN THE COMMUNITY



Public Relations Society of America

► May 31, 2017 – Senator Chang and Representative Takashi Ohno participated in a panel discussion with the Public Relations Society of America. Senator Chang and Representative Ohno discussed human services, health, consumer protection, rail, education, and other hot public issues.



The Paris Agreement

► June 6, 2017 – Senator Chang and other members of the Legislature watch as Governor David Ige signs SB 559, which requires the State to expand strategies and mechanisms to reduce greenhouse gas emissions statewide in alignment with the principles and goals adopted in the Paris Agreement.



The Hōkūleʻa's Return Home

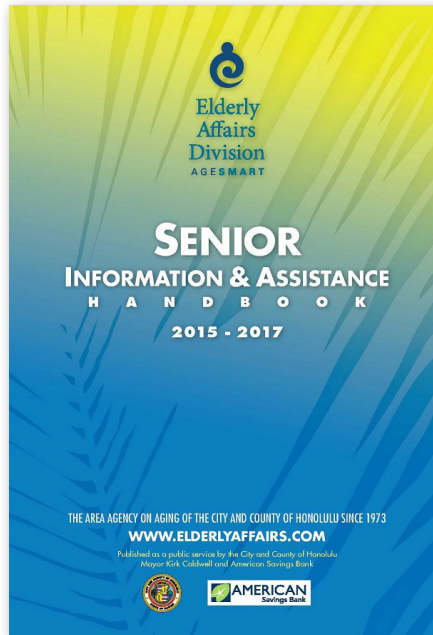
► June 17, 2017 – Senator Chang and thousands of members of the public gathered at Magic Island to welcome back the Hōkūleʻa from its three year journey around the world.



Hawaii Kai Lions Club

► June 18, 2017 – Senator Chang celebrated Father's Day with the Hawaii Kai Lions Club at its annual Pancake Breakfast hosted by Kaiser High School.

YOUR CONCERNS



Senior Information & Assistance Handbook

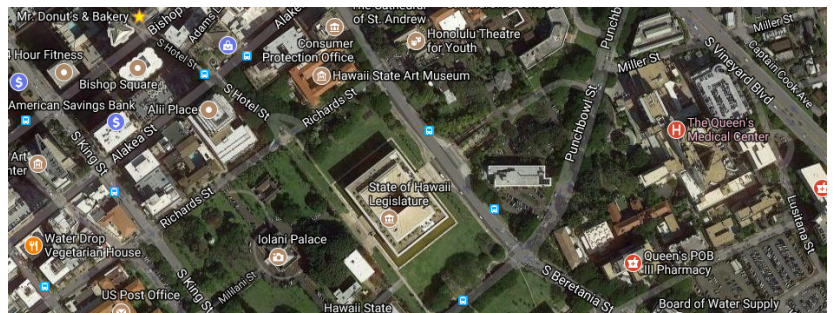
Published by the Elderly Affairs Division of the City and County of Honolulu Department of Community Services and American Savings Bank, this handbook provides a list of services available to senior citizens. Please call our office at **808-586-8420** for a copy.

Hawaii State Capitol Tours

Here are ways for you to tour our beautiful state capitol this summer:

- ▶ **Virtual Tour**
Take a walk through the Hawaii i State Capitol while on the go or from the comforts of home. Learn about the history and the thoughtful creativity behind the Capitol building of the 50th State. arcg.is/2fQTsjl
- ▶ **Self-Guided Tours**
Are available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. year-round, with the exception of state holidays. The State Capitol is closed on weekends. Self-guided tour booklets and additional visitor information are available at the Governor's Office of Information Services located in Room 415 on the 4th floor of the Capitol Building. The Senate and House Chambers are not accessible on self-guided tours.
- ▶ **Guided tours for Schools and Other Groups**
Guided tours for schools and other groups are available in the morning each Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, when the Hawaii State Legislature is in session from January through May. **From June through December, guided tours for schools and other groups are available in the morning each Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.** All group tours require scheduling at least two weeks in advance of your desired tour date. Request for guided tours can be made online using the Tour Request Form. Guided group tours generally begin no earlier than 9:00 a.m., and last 30-75 minutes depending upon the group. governor.hawaii.gov/contact-us/schedule-a-state-capitol-tour
- ▶ **Guided Tours for the General Public**
Guided tours for the general public are given Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. during the months of January to May and at **1:00 p.m., on Monday and Wednesday** in the months of June through December (with the exception of state holidays). Individuals wishing to take the tour are asked to meet in Room 415, located on the fourth floor of the Capitol Building, at 1 p.m. There is no need to RSVP. The general public guided tour may be cancelled because of unavoidable circumstances.

If you need further assistance or experience difficulties using the online group scheduling form, please do not hesitate to contact the **Office of the Governor** directly at **808-586-0221**.



The Hawaii State Capitol is located at 415 S. Beretania Street in downtown Honolulu (source: Google Maps)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



Download the new HNL.info Emergency App

Over **11,200** smartphone users have downloaded HNL.info, the new city notifications app, within a week of its launch. Through the app, Oahu residents will receive timely and up-to-date emergency information. Updates include urgent traffic bulletins, emergency information, severe weather alerts, city information, and much more. Users can also register online at: HNL.info.

The app is available for download in Google Play and the Apple App Store.

Want to share your event?

If you have a community event to share with our community, please send it to our office!

Wildfire Preparedness Workshop

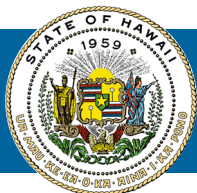
In the past couple of months, Hawaii Kai has experienced several wildfires in the area, including a wildfire that burned around 20 acres of land in Kamilo Nui Valley. Although the wildfires were caused by arson and the suspect has been arrested, the concern is still there as to what measures the community must take to ensure that they are protected.

On June 5, 2017, Senator Chang, Senator Thielen, Representative Ward, and Councilman Ozawa sponsored a Wildfire Preparedness Workshop with the Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization. The HWMO is dedicated to proactive and collaborative wildfire-related education, outreach and technical assistance, project implementation, and research so that communities and natural resources across Hawaii and the Pacific can be protected from the effects of wildfires. With the recent wildfires and the summer among us, the community got together to develop strategies to prevent wildfires and help make Hawaii Kai one of the first certified FireWise communities on Oahu.

To do your part by preventing wildfires, here are just a few tips:

- Clear vegetation 10 feet around campfires and BBQs, keep a shovel and water nearby, and put them out cold before walking away.
- Be sure machinery (chainsaws, weed trimmers) and recreational vehicles have operating spark arrestors and are maintained regularly.
- Heat from vehicle exhaust systems can ignite dry grass—park cars on areas that are paved or where vegetation is trimmed and cleared.

If you would like to help make Hawaii Kai a certified FireWise community, please call us at 586-8420. To learn more visit: hawaiiwildfire.org



From the Office of
Senator Stanley Chang

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 223
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

FROM THE OFFICE OF

SENATOR STANLEY CHANG

East Honolulu Community Newsletter

AUGUST 2017

Preserving the Last Freshwater Spring in East Honolulu

On July 12, 2017, The Trust for Public Land and the Maunalua Fishpond Heritage Center announced the completion of a challenging seven-year effort to preserve Kanewai Spring. Through the assistance of community volunteers, donors, the State of Hawaii, and the City and County of Honolulu, funds were secured to purchase and protect this natural treasure of East Honolulu. Kanewai Spring lies at the base of Paiko Ridge in **Kuli'ou'ou**, where water from the ridge percolates into the aquifer traveling underneath the highway, and surfaces at the spring. The purchase of the intact parcel includes a historic coconut grove and numerous cultural resources. Funds from the City Clean Water and Natural Lands Fund as well as the State Legacy Land Conservation Fund provided the majority of the funding. The purchase prevents the property from being split and ensures that future development will not damage the network of underground coral tubes critical to the flow of spring water. Freshwater sources like Kanewai are important assets to fisheries and the overall Maunalua Bay ecosystem. According to studies by the Bishop Museum, the life-giving fresh water of Kanewai Spring ties all the way back to ancient Hawaiian use.

Today the spring has had an inspiring impact on the lives of keiki through kupuna on O'ahu. Restoration started in 2011. With cooperation and support from the former landowner, Maunalua Fishpond Heritage Center volunteers reawakened the neglected spring, and its crystal-clear waters now flow freely. Uncommon native fish such as *o'opu* and *limu ele'ele*, the prized freshwater seaweed, now thrive. This small spring symbolizes a larger movement of different generations working to malama our islands for a thriving future.

“Kanewai Spring is an irreplaceable treasure of East Honolulu and for the whole state. This acquisition will ensure that every future generation will benefit from this unique resource. I look forward to supporting continued conservation work there and fully restoring the ecosystem of Maunalua Bay.” –Senator Stanley Chang

To learn more visit [facebook.com/MaunaluaFishpond](https://www.facebook.com/MaunaluaFishpond)
To find out how to support Kanewai Spring or sign up for a third Saturday workday contact the Center at maunaluafishponds@gmail.com

Janine Johnson



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Current Bill Status
capitol.hawaii.gov

IN THE COMMUNITY



Student Leadership Conference

► June 23 – Senator Chang attended the Student Leadership Conference at the University of Hawaii Campus Center. He facilitated a discussion on community issues with students from Dole, Niu Valley, and Kea’au Middle Schools.



Kalani High School Mini Makers

► June 24 – Senator Chang attended the Iolani Mini Makers Faire and greeted members of the Kalani High School Makers Club, advised by Trung Lam.



Hawaii Kai Lions Club

► June 18 – At the annual Father’s Day Pancake Breakfast, Senator Chang congratulated the Hawaii Kai Lions Club on the 100th anniversary of Lions International.



Biki Bikeshare

► June 28 – Senator Chang joined Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board Chair Natalie Iwasa at the unveiling and blessing of the Biki bikeshare program. Residents may rent over 1,000 bikes at 100 bike stations in the Chinatown to Waikiki corridor.

YOUR CONCERNS



Neighborhood Board Watch

Community Courts Project Gets Boost From State

In an effort to alleviate the backlog within the court system and reduce crime and recidivism, Senate Bill 718 was signed into law, creating a Community Court outreach project in the City and County of Honolulu and becoming Act 55.

Intended to function as a mobile justice system for nonviolent offenders, judges go out into the community and have the flexibility to impose alternative sentences, community service and mandatory participation in appropriate rehabilitative programs. The goal of the project is to help nonviolent offenders who face problems such as drug abuse and mental health challenges to obtain basic services and necessities, like food and shelter.

According to Honolulu City Prosecutor Keith Kaneshiro, the pilot project has already proven a success. A total of 318 cases have been taken off the calendar. Twenty-one individuals to date have participated in the pilot project with seven completing their community service sentences and five placed in short and long-term housing.

The legislature intends to evaluate the community court outreach project during its operational period and determine whether the project should be expanded to other counties of the State.

“We have to do a better job of holding people accountable for their actions, while ensuring that people with mental and substance issues get the help they need. There is no better way to incentivize people to accept treatment,” said Senator Stanley Chang.

Act 55 aligns with the 2017 Senate Legislative Program that committed to supporting efforts for transforming justice in order to assist the state’s incarcerated and homeless population.



honolulutransit.org

A special session has been set for the dates of **August 28 to September 1, 2017** for the purpose of addressing rail financing and the City and County of Honolulu’s adherence to its Full Funding Grant Agreement with the Federal Transit Administration. Negotiations have been ongoing between the House and Senate to ensure the financial viability of the rail project.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



Governor Ige Signs Act 136 into Law

On July 11, 2017, Governor David Ige signed Act 136 (SB 895) into law. Act 136 classifies unlawfully entering or remaining upon any state land on or under any highway as criminal trespassing. Over the past months, we have received many calls regarding homeless individuals on state highway property. The new law will make it make it easier for state officials in the Department of Transportation (DOT) to enforce encampments under the highway. Our office has been working with DOT officials and the Department of Human Services on homeless cleanups in affected areas.

HDOT Reminds Everyone to Secure Your Load

The Hawai'i Department of Transportation (HDOT) is joining 43 states and territories to raise awareness of the importance of securing your load. On the island of O'ahu alone, HDOT crews respond to an average of 5,000 callouts a year for potentially hazardous debris on state roads.

The **Secure Your Load** campaign is the brainchild of Robin Abel of Seattle, Washington. She started the campaign in 2004 after her daughter was injured by an unsecured load.

Robin chose June 6 as the Secure Your Load day of awareness to honor the memory of 29-year old Matthew Reif of Arizona. Matthew was killed on June 6, 2006, when an unsecured 10-pound piece of scrap metal from a truck in front of him smashed through his windshield.

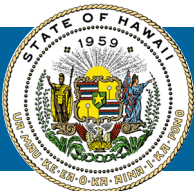
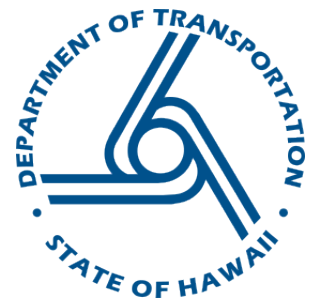
Per the Statewide Traffic Code, HDOT would like to remind the traveling public: "No vehicle shall be moved on any highway, unless the vehicle is so constructed, covered, or loaded as to prevent any of its load... from dropping, sifting, leaking, blowing, spilling, or otherwise escaping..." Full text of the statute on spilling loads on highways and the associated penalties can be found at capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol05_Ch0261-0319/HRS0291C/HRS_0291C-0131.htm

Anytime you travel with a loaded truck bed, trailer, or roof rack make sure to properly secure your load by:

1. Tying down the load with rope or straps.
2. Tying large objects directly to the vehicle or trailer.
3. Covering the entire load with a sturdy tarp (which is then tied down) or netting.

After tying down a load double check to make sure that nothing can slide, fall, or shift out of your vehicle. Check your car manual to make sure you aren't overloading your vehicle.

For more information on securing a vehicle load please view the Washington State Patrol training video at youtu.be/QCYUjpOLATc



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Senator Stanley Chang

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 223
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Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

FROM THE OFFICE OF

SENATOR STANLEY CHANG

East Honolulu Community Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2017



Maunalua-Makapu'u State Scenic Byway

The State Department of Transportation developed the State Scenic Byways Program to recognize, preserve, and enhance locally-significant corridors featuring archaeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational, and/or scenic qualities. It is also a program for roads that “tell a story” special or unique to Hawai'i.

A draft of the Maunalua-Makapu'u State Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan is now available for public review and comment on the Ka Iwi Coast website (kaiwicoast.org). The draft plan seeks to preserve and protect the resources along the coastline from the entrance of Hawai'i Kai to Makai Pier, while enhancing the experience for both local residents and visitors. The byway's 6.8-mile stretch of Kalaniana'ole Highway wraps around the eastern tip of O'ahu between the communities of Maunalua (Hawai'i Kai) and Waimanalo. The designation of this byway will help to educate the public about the cultural significance of this area and to protect and preserve the Ka Iwi area and its cultural and natural resources.

A nonprofit organization, Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui (LHKH), was brought in as the local sponsor to form a Scenic Byway Committee. LHKH is a grassroots group dedicated to upholding the East Honolulu Sustainable Plan. “The designation process was started by Greg Knudsen as a Neighborhood Board project to honor the past four decades of grassroots community groups working to preserve the Ka Iwi Coast from development,” said Elizabeth Reilly of LHKH. “The emphasis of the application, as well as the corridor management plan, is on preserving and protecting the Ka Iwi Coast in its natural state.”

LHKH, with community support, has purchased the Hāwea heiau complex and Keawāwa wetland and has the kuleana of caring for special places throughout Maunalua, including Aloha 'Aina 'O Kamilo Nui Nursery and Pahuā heiau in partnership with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. In early 2017, alongside public and community partners, LHKH acquired and closed on the Ka Iwi Coast Mauka lands.

To obtain a copy of the plan, visit kaiwicoast.org. From the homepage, hover over the ABOUT tab and select MAUNALUA-MAKAPU'U SCENIC BYWAY. To submit a comment on the plan, use the public comment form at the bottom of this page. Comments are due by **December 8, 2017**.



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IN THE COMMUNITY



Red Hill Fuel Storage

► Senator Chang, Mayor Caldwell, fellow legislators, and staff toured the Red Hill fuel storage tanks located near Pearl Harbor. Senator Chang was able to discuss with military officials future ways to prevent leaks and current assessment and mitigation efforts.



Mālama Maunalua Community Huki Service Day

► July 22, 2017, was Mālama Maunalua Community Huki Service Day at Maunalua Bay. Senator Chang and the office joined neighbors, school and other volunteers to collect invasive algae in the bay, which will be composted and reused for school gardening projects.



Ewa Orchid Show

► Senator Chang attended the Ewa Orchid Show at Ewa Elementary School sponsored by the Ewa Orchid Society, established in 1950. This is their 67th year hosting the show.



Thank You Summer Interns!

► Senator Chang bids aloha to summer interns, Kalani graduate Kallen Yoshida and McKinley graduate Landon Li. Both Kallen and Landon attend the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and are in their sophomore year.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Kāhala Community Park baseball field complete

The City and County of Honolulu's reconstruction project to improve the primary baseball field at Kāhala Community Park is now complete and open to the public. The project began last October, during which the baseball field remained closed while the rest of the park remained open to the public. The project included removing and replacing the backstops and dugouts, the installation of new fencing and sidewalks, landscaping, and the planting of new grass. The project cost \$649,000 to complete and was contracted out to Site Engineering, Inc.



Kāhala Community Park, before reconstruction



Kāhala Community Park, after reconstruction



New 'Gates Scholarship' to Offer Full Ride to 300 Students of Color

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is now accepting applications for the Gates Scholarship. Starting in 2018, the scholarship will be awarded to **300 top student leaders** each year with the intent of promoting their academic excellence through college graduation, and providing them the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Scholars will receive funding for the full cost of attendance that is not already covered by other financial aid and the expected family contribution, as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

In addition to funding, The Gates Scholarship will provide further support to Scholars by engaging with them and their institutions in a variety of ways, ensuring they have access to the resources and services they need, from their first to last day of classes through graduation and the transition to their chosen careers.

To apply, students must be:

- A high school senior
- From at least one of the following ethnicities: African-American, American Indian, Alaska Native, Asian & Pacific Islander American, and/or Hispanic American
- Pell-eligible
- A US citizen, national or permanent resident
- A minimum cumulative weighted GPA of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale
- Additionally, a student must plan to enroll full-time in a four-year degree program at a US accredited, not-for-profit, private or public college or university.

Students have until **September 15, 2017** to apply. Applications can be submitted at thegatesscholarship.org/scholarship.

YOUR CONCERNS

Housing Solutions Discussed in the Senate

The status of our affordable housing projects led the discussion during the recent joint informational briefing at the State Capitol of the Senate and House Committees on Housing.

Committee members heard from Hawai'i Public Housing Authority Director, Hakim Ouansafi, who updated state lawmakers on the variety of projects aimed at addressing the lack of available public housing for Hawai'i residents in need of affordable housing.

The State has identified a need for an additional 64,700 housing units to meet the projected long-term housing demand. To ease the demand, HPHA is hoping to add thousands of housing units along the Honolulu rail route through a public-private partnership. In total, ten transit-oriented development projects identified by HPHA could add up to 10,600 new housing units in the coming years.

Two projects in the early stages of development include the redevelopment of Mayor Wright Housing in Palama and Kuhio Park Terrace in Kalihi. The redevelopment of the Mayor Wright parcel will feature up to 546 housing units

and over 40,000 square feet of commercial space. The project would provide new housing for current residents and create additional affordable workforce housing and market-priced units.

According to the HPHA, there currently is a 10-year, \$815 million repair and maintenance backlog. In the last Legislative session, lawmakers provided \$20.175 million to address the backlog and safety improvements.

In an effort to address the affordable housing crunch, lawmakers passed HB1179 (Act 54) which expands the types of rental housing projects that can be exempt from general excise tax, encouraging the development of rental housing projects targeted for low-income residents.

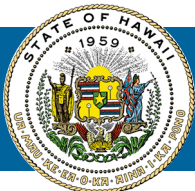
The Legislature also passed SB1244 (Act 159) authorizing the Hawai'i Community Development Authority to waive its right to repurchase affordable housing units and transfer that right to repurchase to a qualified nonprofit housing trust on the condition the units remain affordable housing units.



Hawai'i Public Housing Authority Director, Hakim Ouansafi, talking to legislators in 2016
AP photo by Cathy Bussewitz



Mayor Wright Housing in Palama
KHON2



From the Office of

Senator Stanley Chang

Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 223
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

FROM THE OFFICE OF
SENATOR STANLEY CHANG
East Honolulu Community Newsletter

OCTOBER 2017



We are halfway through the hurricane season, and so far the Hawaiian Islands have seen **9 named hurricanes** in the Central Pacific basin. This is right on track with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Central Pacific Hurricane Center's prediction that climate conditions point to a near- to above-normal hurricane season this year. Take the time now to prepare for your family, business, and property *before* a hurricane hazard approaches your area:

1. Develop an Emergency Plan

- Transportation
- Evacuation routes and lead times
- Home, business, & property security
- Pets and animals care

2. Prepare a Home Survival Kit

Be ready to cope with loss of *water, electricity, gas, and telephone services* in your own home.

Caregivers and kūpuna need to have a detailed disaster plan that involves creating a support network of neighbors and friends. Caregivers of people with dementia should have more than one person to watch over every loved one to help keep them calm and to make sure they do not wander away. Include a **two-week supply** of needed medication. Include extra eyeglasses and hearing aids in your emergency kit, along with extra batteries for battery-operated medical or assistive technology devices.

Hawai'i's hurricane season begins June 1 and runs through November 30, 2017.

For more information on hurricane preparedness:
nhc.noaa.gov/prepare/ready.php

3. Prepare an Evacuation Kit

Determine what you would need to bring with you *before* the danger arrives.

4. Stay Calm, Stay Alert, Stay Informed

Listen to your local radio stations for official announcements by the *Hawai'i Civil Defense Agency* and *National Weather Service*; ensure access to a battery-powered radio.

► **CALL US**
808-586-8420

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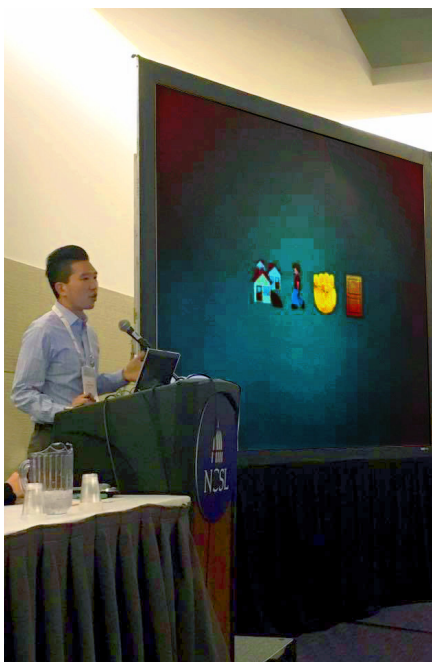
Trash Collection
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Street Light Repair
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Lawyer Referral & Information Service
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Current Bill Status
capitol.hawaii.gov

IN THE COMMUNITY



MILLENNIAL PERSPECTIVE

August 9 ◀ Senator Chang was a featured panelist at the **National Conference of State Legislatures'** annual convention in Boston, MA, giving a millennial perspective on how governments and communities work together.



TACHIBANA RETIRES

September 2 ▶ Senator Chang and former Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland presented Joanne Tachibana with a certificate upon her retirement from the City & County of Honolulu after **40+ years** of service.



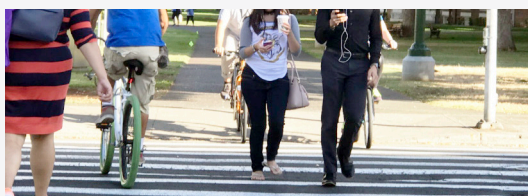
THINKTECH HAWAII

August 23 ▲ Senator Chang sat down with Carl Campagna to discuss homelessness solutions on ThinkTech Hawai'i (streaming live 11–5pm daily), a publicly funded show that envisions our best prospects for the future. Watch the full interview: goo.gl/q8NL32



THE MID-AUTUMN MOON FESTIVAL

September 17 ▲ Senator Chang attended the **United Chinese of Hawai'i's** banquet celebrating the 68th National Day of the People's Republic of China and the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival at the Pacific Beach Hotel.



Earlier this year, the City and County passed a new law that prohibits pedestrians from looking at their phone and mobile device screens while crossing the street. The new law will take effect **October 25, 2017**. Violation of this law will result in a **\$15 to \$35 fine for the first offense, \$35–\$75 for the second, and \$75–\$99 for the third**. It is still legal to talk on your device while crossing the crosswalk and to look at your device while on the sidewalk.

YOUR CONCERNS



Tax Relief for Working Families

To help our struggling neighbors, the Legislature passed HB209, a landmark cost of living reduction bill that Governor Ige signed into law as Act 107.

Act 107 establishes a state earned income tax credit, mirroring the federal earned income tax credit (EITC), to help low-income workers retain a larger percentage of their yearly income. It also permanently extends the higher rates of the refundable food/excise tax credit, which makes it less costly for those in need to afford necessities like food.

Hawai'i residents who file for the federal EITC will be eligible to claim the state-level EITC. Anyone who is currently claiming the Refundable Food/Excise Tax Credit will be allowed to continue claiming it at its current rate.

Act 107 is a fiscally responsible measure that is financed through the restoration of the highest income tax brackets that existed until 2015.

“A state EITC will help working families afford our high cost of living. It is also an incentive for people to work. It is one of the most powerful tools we have to help working people in Hawaii,” said Senator Chang.

The economic impact of Act 107 on working families is significant. It is estimated that more than 107,000 Hawai'i households receiving the federal EITC would potentially be able to claim the state credit. According to the Department of Taxation, Act 107 will give \$130 million back to low-income families over the first six years of the credit. Additionally, the Refundable Food/Excise tax credit portion amounts to \$110 per exemption per claimant.

EQUIFAX Data Breach

The State of Hawaii Office of Consumer Protection (OCP) has announced that an investigation into the massive data breach involving the consumer reporting agency Equifax. Equifax's breach affected at least 143 million Americans. As a result, information compromised in the breach included Social Security numbers, driver's license numbers, names, dates of birth, credit card numbers and addresses—creating a perfect opportunity for impacted people to become victims of identity theft.

The company has set up a website where people can check whether their personal information potentially was affected by the breach: equifaxsecurity2017.com

The OCP states that consumers should:

- Regularly request their free credit reports, inspect them closely, and promptly dispute any unauthorized accounts;
- Inspect all financial account statements closely and promptly dispute any unauthorized charges;
- Consider placing alerts on their financial accounts so their financial institution alerts them when money above a pre-designated amount is withdrawn;
- Beware of potential phishing emails; don't open any email messages or attachments from unknown senders and do not click on any unknown links. Fraudsters will frequently send coercive and misleading emails threatening account suspension or worse if sensitive information is not provided. Remember, businesses will never ask customers to verify account information via email. If in doubt, contact the business in question directly for verification and to report phishing emails;
- Be on the lookout for spoofed email addresses. Spoofed email addresses are those that make minor changes in the domain name, frequently changing the letter O to the number zero, or the lowercase letter l to the number one. Scrutinize all incoming email addresses to ensure that the sender is truly legitimate.

Consumers with questions regarding Equifax's data breach are encouraged to contact Equifax at **866-447-7559**.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



HDOT Makes Project Status Data Available to the Public Online

The Hawai'i Department of Transportation (HDOT) Highways Division is making project status data available publicly on their website. Available data includes the schedule, scope, and estimated cost for all current State Highways projects as well as all projects planned to begin construction in the next two years.

The data is accessible through the following link:
arcg.is/2wsEM62

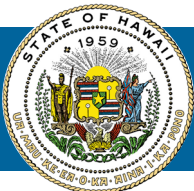
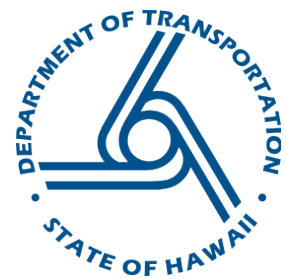
“We are pleased to roll out the HDOT Highways Project Status Map,” said HDOT Deputy Director for Highways Ed Sniffen. “This map tool allows members of the public to easily access information on Highways projects in their community. I would like to thank the Highways staff and the Office of Planning for their support in making this data widely available.”

The HDOT Highways Project Status Map can also be found on hidot.hawaii.gov by selecting Highways in the ‘Home’ menu, then ‘Major Projects,’ selecting ‘Project Map.’

Users can view project information by selecting the lines along roads on the map or by selecting ‘View a PDF list of Projects by Area’ in the map legend. Users may also toggle between current construction projects and planned future construction using the tabs ‘Current Construction’ and ‘Future Projects.’

The search feature represented by the magnifying glass symbol allows users to search for projects by entering any part of a project name. For example, beginning to input “Kamehameha” will show an auto complete list of the projects involving Kamehameha Highway.

The HDOT Highways Project Status Map will be updated on a regular basis. Questions or comments on the map may be sent to dotpao@Hawaii.gov.



FROM THE OFFICE OF
SENATOR STANLEY CHANG

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NOVEMBER 2017



The 50th Anniversary of Hanauma Bay

This past month, Hanauma Bay celebrated 50 years as Hawai'i's first marine life conservation district. On October 24, 2017, hundreds gathered at the Hanauma Bay visitor center to commemorate the event.

Hanauma Bay is world renowned for its spectacular beauty and abundant diversity of marine life. It is a biologically, historically, spiritually, and culturally significant natural resource harboring a marine environment whose coral formations and over 450 varieties of fish create one of the most unique underwater landscapes in the world.

On October 23, 1967, Hanauma Bay was designated the State of Hawai'i's first Marine Life Conservation District, a living laboratory for research, investigation and educational purposes. This protective designation resulted in Hanauma Bay's thriving coral reef ecosystem with the largest standing biomass of reef fish around O'ahu.

Since 1990, Hanauma Bay has served as a model of marine protection and education by limiting the number of visitors and educating them about its marine environment. In 1993, Hanauma Bay became the first smoke-free beach; since then, the City and County of Honolulu banned smoking on all beaches and parks on O'ahu. In 2001, the first documented successful use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) in a beach setting by ocean safety lifeguards occurred at Hanauma Bay, leading to the widespread inclusion of AED's as standard first aid equipment at beaches worldwide, as well as at airports, schools, restaurants and other public venues. In 2002, the Hanauma Bay Marine Education Center was opened and has since been internationally acknowledged as a model of marine environmental education programs.

Just as significant, the State Department of Land and Natural Resources and the City and County of Honolulu work together to protect and preserve Hanauma Bay. Since 1990, the all-volunteer Friends of Hanauma Bay has consistently advocated for Hanauma Bay and unwaveringly supported its education and preservation mission. This collaborative triad of State, City and Friends organization dedicated to protecting and preserving Hanauma Bay is critical to forging the way ahead, ensuring Hanauma Bay remains the "crown jewel" of O'ahu for generations to come.



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IN THE COMMUNITY



GLOBAL TOURISM SUMMIT

September 19–21 ▲ Senator Chang met the Food Network's Ted Allen, host of the prime-time competition series *Chopped*, at the 2017 Global Tourism Summit.



MEN'S MARCH AGAINST VIOLENCE

October 12 ▲ Senator Chang attended the 23rd annual Men's March Against Violence organized by the Domestic Violence Action Center at the State Capitol.



COMMUNITY COLLEGE TOUR

October 19 ▲ Senator Chang joined the House and Senate Committees on Higher Education in a tour of Honolulu Community College and Kapiolani Community College to learn about the innovative ways they are improving their institutions.



AIEA HIGH SCHOOL

October 23 ▲ Senator Chang spoke to junior and freshmen students at Aiea High School on the importance of education and leadership.

YOUR CONCERNS



Saturday Hours for Kapālama Hale Duplicate of Driver's Licenses and Instruction Permits Available Online

In an effort to better meet the driver licensing needs of O'ahu residents and reduce lines, the city's Department of Customer Services is announcing two new initiatives.

To help meet an expected surge in driver license renewals, the main driver license center at Kapālama Hale will temporarily be offering Saturday morning hours from 8 a.m. to noon, beginning this Saturday, October 14, through the end of the year.

Drivers can renew their license six months before the deadline and keep the same birth date expiration. However, no road testing or written exams will be performed on Saturdays. Appointments are recommended at license.honolulu.gov, where the city's interactive documents guide is also available.

In addition, O'ahu residents can now avoid lines and apply for a duplicate driver's license or instruction permit from the convenience of their mobile device or home computer. The city's Department of Customer Services recently launched the new online service at license.honolulu.gov.

Residents can use the site to order an exact duplicate replacement of their driver's license or instruction permit, which must have been originally issued by the City and County of Honolulu. The online system will not allow changes to address, name, or other information.

A temporary paper license or permit will be mailed to the recipient's current address on file within two to three business days, and the permanent license or permit will arrive within three to four weeks. The online fee for a duplicate license or permit is \$6 plus a non-refundable service fee of \$1. Payment must be made by credit or debit card.

Motorists are advised that they cannot drive without a valid license. If they do not wish to wait for the temporary driver's license or instruction permit to be mailed, they should apply at a Driver Licensing Center or Satellite City Hall at Fort Street, Hawai'i Kai, Pearlridge and Windward City to receive a temporary card on site. The permanent card will then be mailed.

The new online service supports the city's efforts to utilize technology to reduce lines and wait times at all Driver Licensing Centers and designated Satellite City Hall locations. In fiscal year 2017, the Department of Customer Services processed close to 40,000 duplicate driver's license transactions. The Department of Information Technology designed the license.honolulu.gov site with no additional cost to taxpayers.

"This new online service is yet another example of how the city is using technology for the benefit of O'ahu residents so they don't waste their precious time," said Mayor Kirk Caldwell. "By developing the software in-house, we are also saving taxpayer money that can be spent on other initiatives."

The public is encouraged to use online services whenever possible. Visit honolulu.gov/csd for motor vehicle registration renewal, State ID applications, the driver's license and ID document guide, water bill and property tax payment, and driver's license road test appointments.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

DCCA: Beware of Fake State Investigators

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' Regulated Industries Complaints Office (RICO) is warning the public about at least one individual who posed as a RICO investigator.

The office received information that a letter was sent to a local business asserting a violation and that RICO would be conducting an investigation at that location. The letter, however, was not sent by an investigator from the RICO office.

Notices from RICO are sent on official letterhead and include contact information for all RICO offices. Legitimate RICO investigators carry official badges and credentials with their name and organization. Members of the public may request to view the credentials of a RICO investigator to confirm the investigator's identity. To verify the authenticity of an investigator or a written notice from RICO, the public also may call the RICO office at **(808) 587-4272**.

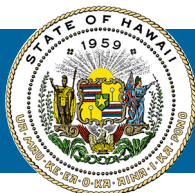
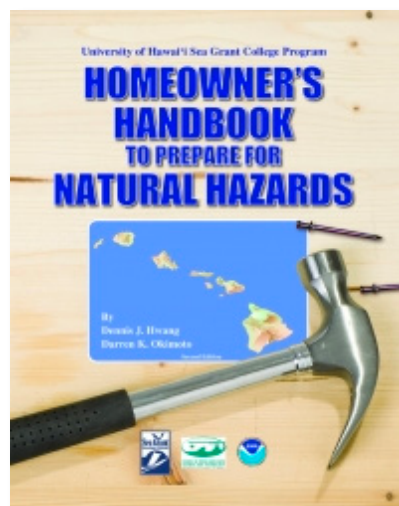


Hurricane Preparedness

Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria teach us of the need to prepare even more in Hawai'i. In 2015 we had a record level of activity in the Pacific. This year, there has been a record level of activity in the Atlantic with devastating impacts for Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico. Weather conditions favorable for hurricane formation in the Atlantic coincide with unfavorable conditions for hurricane activity in the Pacific, but these cycles alternate back and forth over multi-year periods.

Almost every house can be strengthened with simple or modest home improvement projects. These include adding hurricane clips, protecting your windows, strengthening your roof, or foundation. Considering your house is your major investment, and its main function is to protect you and your family from high winds and rain, this is a very wise move. The best time to do this work is during clear weather conditions. As hurricane season nears its end on **November 30**, consider making these changes now for this year and the long-term.

To protect your home and family from future disasters check out the free Homeowner's Handbook to Prepare for Natural Disasters from the University of Hawaii Sea Grant. Learn about the importance of a Continuous Load Path Connection and the many retrofits to protect your home from natural hazards. Download a copy at: seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu/homeowners-handbook-prepare-natural-hazards.



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