

Working for You...
AND THE STATE OF HAWAII

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz

HAWAII STATE SENATE - DISTRICT 22
Mililani Mauka • Wahiawā • Whitmore Village • Waip'ō Acres • Wheeler • Poamoho



September 2016

Majority Whip

Vice Chair: Committee on Ways and Means

Member: Committees on Education; Government Operations; Water, Land and Agriculture.



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UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS VISITS HAWAII TO

PLAN & DESIGN THE WHITMORE AGRIBUSINESS TECH PARK

The Agribusiness Development Corporation, a state agency which , is working with the University of Arkansas Community Design Center and the HIDEIGN Studio, a University of Hawaii School of Architecture community design center (CDC) and outreach program to plan and design the Whitmore Agribusiness Tech Park, a component of the Whitmore Project.



Schools of Architecture across the country have established CDCs to provide architectural and engineering services that encourage community development efforts. Combining interdisciplinary academic initiatives, CDCs engage project stakeholders and collaboratively create a product that will be used towards the architectural design of a project. Architecture majors are also engaged during this process so students cant take part in the design of a project.

During their stay, faculty and students took various site visits to facilities purchased by the Agribusiness Development Corporation and historic sites in Wahiawa. In order to draft an appropriate master plan for the park, planners needed to understand Wahiawa's plantation history and how cultural ties should be intertwined with the revitalized facility. Infrastructure such as roads and pathways could be named after the fifteen pineapple plantation camps that existed before Dole decided consolidate worker housing into Whitmore Village.

Further, as farmers become tenants of the Whitmore Agribusiness Tech Park and occupy facilities we hope that they restore the historic façade captured in the Wahiawa Urban Design Plan. While the exterior will be reminiscent of the old Wahiawa Town the interior will be equipped with modern day processing and packaging equipment so farmers are food safety certified. A master plan gives tenants a baseline start of what needs to be built.

We hope to see an integrated plan that would support farmers and the nearby community.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture and Health (R.E.A.C.H.) is a statewide initiative to provide an organizational framework and a funding base for public schools to offer after-school programs for middle and intermediate school students so they can stay on track toward high school graduation and be better prepared for future success.



According to statistics, nearly 50% of all first time juvenile arrests in the State of Hawaii occur at the middle school age. The state has long focused on providing after-school programs to our state's elementary and high school students; however, there is no comprehensive program at the intermediate/middle school level. The majority of existing intermediate/middle school programs are supported by unpredictable federal funding. A more reliable source of funding is needed to provide greater stability and higher rates of participation.

The R.E.A.C.H. initiative seeks to ensure students in grades sixth to eight receive the academic and community-based support they need to stay on track in high school graduation, college, career and beyond by engaging them in a broad-base of programs and activities during non-instructional hours. The program also works with organizations currently utilizing successful platforms throughout the state to bring these programs under one umbrella organization.

I am pleased to inform that the following middle schools have been selected to receive R.E.A.C.H. funding for SY 2016-2017:

- **\$30,000 - Wheeler Middle School**
- **\$45,000 - Wahiawa Middle School**

I hope this initiative helps working families who have difficulties caring for their child during hours that are critical during a child's development.

District 22 Capital Improvement Projects

I am pleased to report that the Governor released **\$2.119M to renovate and expand Helemano Elementary School's cafeteria**. In 2014, the Legislature appropriated \$4M for this project and over half of the appropriation will be spent to make these improvements.

Currently, the Helemano Elementary cafeteria is considered to be 67% adequate and is lacking equipment such as a walk-in refrigerator and kettles. The seating capacity of the school's dining area is also maxed out and can no longer accommodate additional tables. Anticipating the development of 146 homes at the Helemano Military Reservation would increase school enrollment by 175 students, the school decided to increase the seating capacity and upgrade the school's cafeteria for additional improvements.