

Working for You...
AND THE STATE OF HAWAII

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz

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



August 2015

Majority Whip

Vice Chair: Committee on Ways and Means

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



You can view Senator Dela Cruz's senate website at www.capitol.hawaii.gov.



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FIRST RESPONDERS AND CYBERSECURITY TECH CAMPUS

We are mid-way through this year's hurricane season and we've already been threatened by several storm systems. Fortunately, each system has weakened by the time it reached the islands and has not caused any catastrophic damages. Many of us recall the impacts of Hurricane Iniki and Iwa, and within the last decade, super storms Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Sandy that devastated states on the East Coast. Is our State prepared in the event of a natural disaster of this scale?

I recently held a working group meeting with first responder agencies and including the Department of Defense, and the Office of Information Management and Technology to discuss future plans of developing the First Responders Technology Campus and Cybersecurity Data Center facility in Mililani Tech Park. Consolidating federal, state, and county agencies will allow facilities to be developed that can be shared between agencies as well as leverage federal and state funding saving taxpayers in the long run. In a time when resources are limited and government budgets need to be prioritized as to which public facilities and needs require prompt attention, bringing together various first responder agencies to plan and develop facilities that can be shared provides a financial benefit to both the public agencies and taxpayer by lowered project costs. But it is more than just cost savings, we are looking at how to best provide critical services during a natural disaster.



Discussions with the Department of Defense and State Civil Defense noted that Honolulu lacks facilities to serve as a backup for a State Emergency Center, a base camp to serve as a staging point to coordinate support and services during a natural disaster. We also lack pertinent training facilities, such as an urban search and rescue facility, and an emergency vehicle operations center. Furthermore, in the event of a tsunami, the only airfield on Oahu outside of the inundation zone is Wheeler Airfield.

Another benefit of developing this campus is shifting some jobs from urban Honolulu to Central Oahu. We need to start diversifying our economy outside of the urban core and creating job opportunities and economic hubs in different regions.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Learn Live ^ Work , Play

On two separate site visits, I met with HART and DOE officials and the other with Queens Medical Center West Oahu to discuss what careers will be in demand both immediately and the near future so we can align our public school curriculum with the industry within the complex region.



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District 22 Capital Improvement Projects

I am pleased to update you on recent projects that were awarded funding:

Mililani High School: \$750,000

- The deteriorated wooden bleachers will be replaced. The estimated completion date is November 2016.

Mililani Middle School: \$133,033

- Parking lot resurfacing. Estimated completion date not yet available.

To view a list of all CIP projects for District 22, please go to www.capitol.hawaii.gov and click on my member's page.

The Hawaii Farm to School Coalition joined me at the Whitmore Agribusiness Tech Park to learn more about the Whitmore Project. Food safety is a big issue when it comes to providing local produce at our public schools. I am working with both local farmers and the Department of Education to develop a model that will get more local produce served in our public schools.

