

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



January 2018

Happy New Years!

Chair: Committee on Ways and Means

Member: Committee on Education



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



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Aloha All,

The beginning of a new year is often a time of reflection of the year gone by and we count our blessings and be thankful for family, friends and countless others who support us throughout the year. I am grateful for the opportunity to meet many people who support my initiatives and the work that I am doing and trust me to work in their behalf. My efforts are always dedicated and committed to be worthy of their trust in me.

As we begin a new session, our State continues to be faced with many challenges. These difficult times call for strong leadership and challenging work. I look forward to this opportunity to serve and to ensure we take on these challenges. My colleagues and I will continue to focus on improving and diversifying our economy, expanding programs in our public education system reversing the brain drain, and improving our quality of life through services, programs, and redevelopment.

Also, I am encouraged by the progress of the initiatives we have embarked on. The Whitmore Project has made great strides in its movement to succeeding phases and we continue to move in the direction of making Central Oahu an agricultural hub. Over the past three legislative sessions, over \$65 million was appropriated to purchase and protect agricultural lands in Central Oahu. Soon, the State will have acquired over 3,000 acres of agricultural lands between Central Oahu and the North Shore.

Included in this purchase was the 92-acre parcel in Kipapa Gulch. This parcel sits south of Mililani Mauka. By purchasing agricultural land around Mililani, the State can protect and preserve this open land in perpetuity.

The First Responders and Cyber Security Campus at Mililani Tech Park has also made much progress. Since the State closed on the purchase this past August, the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation has been working with the state and county first responder agencies to develop a timeline. Also, a project manager will soon be tasked to oversee the design and construction of the project.

As we celebrate the positives of the past year, we also look forward to the New Year with hope and enthusiasm for greater accomplishments and we reaffirm our hopes and ambitions for the future. We were challenged at times to make the right decisions and tough decisions had to be made. New challenges undoubtedly await us in the New Year as we continue to work toward making our state a place where residents are proud to call home and where succeeding generations have opportunities.

I extend my best wishes for a Happy New Year to you and your loved ones!

Working for You!



(Left) Congratulating and recognizing the Hawaii Youth Challenge Academy's Graduating Class 47 on their completion of the five-month program. The Hawaii Youth Challenge Academy focuses on training its Cadets to be successful members of society by providing learning skills, job training, and mentorship.



(Above) My colleague Senator Michelle Kidani and I participated in the Annual Mililani Hometown Holiday Parade. Despite the rain, many attended to show support for our community.

Striping and Improving Moenamanu Street

Working with the City & County of Honolulu's Department of Transportation Services, Senator Michelle Kidani and I successfully requested that centerline striping be installed on Moenamanu Street.

Currently, there is no striping on Moenamanu Street. The Department of Transportation Services' study found that the installation of centerline striping would promote the safe and orderly movement of traffic. Site inspections also found signs and pavement markings that are in need of maintenance.

A work order will soon be issued to install double yellow centerline striping on Moenamanu Street, and to replace the missing and faded signs and pavement markings along Moenamanu Street.