



**Donovan M. Dela Cruz**  
Hawaii State Senator



# Hawaii State Senate

## District 22

Serving Mililani Mauka, Wahiawa, Whitmore Village, Waipi'o Acres, Wheeler, part of Poamoho—and the State of Hawaii

May 2013

**Chair**, Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing

**Vice Chair**, Committee on Transportation and International Affairs

**Member**, Committees on Ways and Means; Agriculture; Water and Land

Aloha!

The 2013 session has come to an end and I am happy to say that among the various measures passed, there were several in support of agriculture. My committee passed several bills that promote economic development such as extending the tax credit for the film industry till 2013; establishing the Hawaii Growth Initiative to encourage and assist entrepreneurs; and improving the efficiency of the Energy Industry Information Reporting Act. We also passed bills on government operations to ensure effective management of the University of Hawaii's facilities and resources; revised the public procurement code; and directed the Comptroller to establish a task force to study the state procurement code. In the area of housing, the Hula Mae Single Family Mortgage Loan Program was updated to allow a broader participation by potential homeowners. We continue to work during the interim planning for next session.

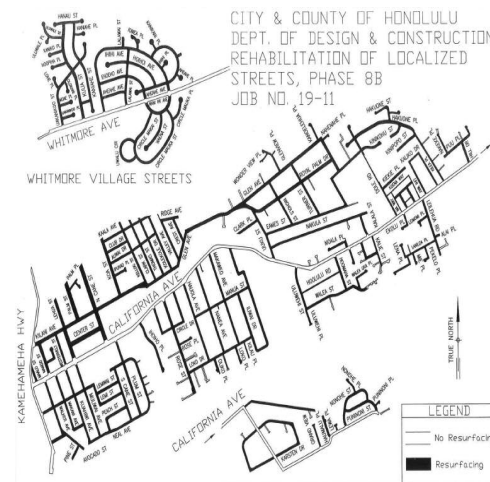
A Hui Hou!

### Public Information Meeting on Mililani Interchange Traffic Study

The State Department of Transportation (DOT) will be conducting a meeting on Wednesday, May 22, 6:30 p.m., at the Mililani Mauka Elementary School. DOT is doing a traffic study on the existing conditions at the H-2 interchange. They plan to evaluate alternatives that would help to improve the traffic situation in the area. DOT hopes to learn what the community's concerns are and address any questions residents may have. The department plans to have another meeting sometime in July and when the date becomes available, it will be disseminated.

### Rehabilitation of Streets in Wahiawa and Whitmore

The City Department of Transportation Services will be undertaking rehabilitation of streets in Wahiawa and Whitmore Village. Work will consist of road resurfacing, concrete curb and gutter, concrete sidewalk, adjustment of utility manholes, pavement markings and installation of vehicle loop detectors. Except for California Avenue and Whitmore Avenue which had recent work done. Most of the streets in Wahiawa and Whitmore Village will be resurfaced.



### Central Oahu School Improvements

Funds for the following Central Oahu schools have been included in the budget recently passed:

Hale Kula Elementary	\$180,000
Helemano Elementary	\$36,000
Iliahi Elementary	\$1,792,000
Kaala Elementary	\$154,300
Leilehua High	\$258,000
Mililani High	\$400,000
Mililani Ike Elementary	\$30,000
Mililani Mauka Elementary	\$64,000
Mililani Middle	\$831,000
Wahiawa Elementary	\$201,000
Wahiawa Middle	\$431,000
Wahiawa Storefront	\$50,000
Wheeler Elementary	298,000
Wheeler Middle	\$ 216,000

Work will consist of various improvements to the school facilities and grounds such as reroofing, refurbishing playground equipment, site improvements, covering playgrounds, recarpeting, kitchen improvements, repainting and portable special ed classrooms.

### Economic Development

In seeking to promote economic development and diversity, Senator Dela Cruz's committee passed several bills to achieve this end, among which is House Bill 858, also referred to The Hawaii Growth Initiative. The program will help to mentor entrepreneurs and assist them to take their businesses to the next level while attracting private sector investment capital. Investing in local small businesses will enable the state to direct some of the entrepreneurial activity into communities statewide. This will help to diversify the economy and hopefully reverse the brain drain.

## Winding Down to Sine Die



Senator meeting in conference with House members to come to an agreement on certain bills.



Sine Die, May 2, with Senators Kahele, Hee and Shimabukuro.



Senator's committee in a joint meeting with the Higher Education Committee discussing University of Hawaii procurement.



The Leilehua High School Choral Group performing at the State Capitol. Capitol employees and legislators enjoyed their songs, particularly their rendition of Danny Boy in tribute to the late Senator Daniel Inouye. Prior to their coming to the capitol, the group performed at Honolulu Hale.



You can view Senator Dela Cruz's senate website at [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov). If you would like to receive our monthly newsletters and quarterly updates via email, we suggest that you email us your request via the Senate website.

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## Whitmore Village Agricultural Development Plan

As more people are hearing of Senator's Whitmore Village Plan, the interest in learning more about it has increased and senator has been doing presentations to various groups within and outside of the district. Recent actions by the state and the legislature are first steps in enabling the plan to be implemented. Acquisition of acres of agriculture land and processing and storage facilities; additional funds for irrigation systems, anaerobic digester and additional facilities, all contribute to moving in the direction of the plan becoming a reality in the near future. Through the proven success of the Plan and as agriculture starts to thrive again in Central Oahu, the Plan could serve as a template to be replicated in other rural communities throughout the state. Besides agriculture, the Plan also brings economic revitalization to the communities .

## Senator Dela Cruz Bills

Included in the bills that Senator was either the primary introducer or co-introducer are the following:

Senate Bill 237, which authorizes the Board of Education and DOE to facilitate redevelopment of public school lands and improve existing facilities and build schools to 21st century standards.

Senate Bill 680, establishes an office of homeland security to provide a comprehensive program to protect Hawaii's residents, infrastructure and government from terrorism and attacks.

Senate Bill 1349 re-establishes the income tax credit for qualified research activities to encourage job growth in research and development.