

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 Maunaloa 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 Maunaloa 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, Maunaloa 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 Maunaloa Bay." –Senator Stanley Chang

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

Janine Johnson



► **CALL US**

808-586-8420

► **EMAIL US**

Stanley Chang
Senator, District 9 (D)
senchang@capitol.hawaii.gov

Adrian Tam
Office Manager
a.tam@capitol.hawaii.gov

Cameron Sato
Community Liaison
c.sato@capitol.hawaii.gov

Jessica Sato
Newsletter Editor
jessato@gmail.com

► **HANDY CONTACTS**

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

Lawyer Referral and Information Service
808-537-9140

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.

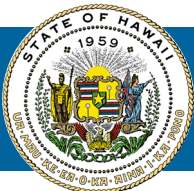
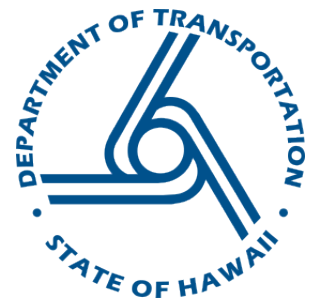
Per the Statewide Traffic Code, HDOT would like to remind the traveling public: "No vehicle shall be moved on any highway, unless the vehicle is so constructed, covered, or loaded as to prevent any of its load... from dropping, sifting, leaking, blowing, spilling, or otherwise escaping..." Full text 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



From the Office of

Senator Stanley Chang

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