

FROM THE OFFICE OF

# SENATOR STANLEY CHANG

East Honolulu Community Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2017



## Maunaloa-Makapu'u State Scenic Byway

The State Department of Transportation developed the State Scenic Byways Program to recognize, preserve, and enhance locally-significant corridors featuring archaeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational, and/or scenic qualities. It is also a program for roads that “tell a story” special or unique to Hawai'i.

A draft of the Maunaloa-Makapu'u State Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan is now available for public review and comment on the Ka Iwi Coast website ([kaiwicoast.org](http://kaiwicoast.org)). The draft plan seeks to preserve and protect the resources along the coastline from the entrance of Hawai'i Kai to Makai Pier, while enhancing the experience for both local residents and visitors. The byway's 6.8-mile stretch of Kalaniana'ole Highway wraps around the eastern tip of O'ahu between the communities of Maunaloa (Hawai'i Kai) and Waimanalo. The designation of this byway will help to educate the public about the cultural significance of this area and to protect and preserve the Ka Iwi area and its cultural and natural resources.

A nonprofit organization, Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui (LHKH), was brought in as the local sponsor to form a Scenic Byway Committee. LHKH is a grassroots group dedicated to upholding the East Honolulu Sustainable Plan. “The designation process was started by Greg Knudsen as a Neighborhood Board project to honor the past four decades of grassroots community groups working to preserve the Ka Iwi Coast from development,” said Elizabeth Reilly of LHKH. “The emphasis of the application, as well as the corridor management plan, is on preserving and protecting the Ka Iwi Coast in its natural state.”

LHKH, with community support, has purchased the Hāwea heiau complex and Keawāwa wetland and has the kuleana of caring for special places throughout Maunaloa, including Aloha 'Aina 'O Kamilo Nui Nursery and Pahuā heiau in partnership with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. In early 2017, alongside public and community partners, LHKH acquired and closed on the Ka Iwi Coast Mauka lands.

To obtain a copy of the plan, visit [kaiwicoast.org](http://kaiwicoast.org). From the homepage, hover over the ABOUT tab and select MAUNALUA-MAKAPU'U SCENIC BYWAY. To submit a comment on the plan, use the public comment form at the bottom of this page. Comments are due by **December 8, 2017**.



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► **HANDY CONTACTS**

**Pothole Hotline**  
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**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](http://capitol.hawaii.gov)

## IN THE COMMUNITY



### Red Hill Fuel Storage

► Senator Chang, Mayor Caldwell, fellow legislators, and staff toured the Red Hill fuel storage tanks located near Pearl Harbor. Senator Chang was able to discuss with military officials future ways to prevent leaks and current assessment and mitigation efforts.



### Mālama Maunalua Community Huki Service Day

► July 22, 2017, was Mālama Maunalua Community Huki Service Day at Maunalua Bay. Senator Chang and the office joined neighbors, school and other volunteers to collect invasive algae in the bay, which will be composted and reused for school gardening projects.



### Ewa Orchid Show

► Senator Chang attended the Ewa Orchid Show at Ewa Elementary School sponsored by the Ewa Orchid Society, established in 1950. This is their 67<sup>th</sup> year hosting the show.



### Thank You Summer Interns!

► Senator Chang bids aloha to summer interns, Kalani graduate Kallen Yoshida and McKinley graduate Landon Li. Both Kallen and Landon attend the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and are in their sophomore year.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### Kāhala Community Park baseball field complete

The City and County of Honolulu's reconstruction project to improve the primary baseball field at Kāhala Community Park is now complete and open to the public. The project began last October, during which the baseball field remained closed while the rest of the park remained open to the public. The project included removing and replacing the backstops and dugouts, the installation of new fencing and sidewalks, landscaping, and the planting of new grass. The project cost \$649,000 to complete and was contracted out to Site Engineering, Inc.



Kāhala Community Park, before reconstruction



Kāhala Community Park, after reconstruction



### New 'Gates Scholarship' to Offer Full Ride to 300 Students of Color

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is now accepting applications for the Gates Scholarship. Starting in 2018, the scholarship will be awarded to **300 top student leaders** each year with the intent of promoting their academic excellence through college graduation, and providing them the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Scholars will receive funding for the full cost of attendance that is not already covered by other financial aid and the expected family contribution, as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

In addition to funding, The Gates Scholarship will provide further support to Scholars by engaging with them and their institutions in a variety of ways, ensuring they have access to the resources and services they need, from their first to last day of classes through graduation and the transition to their chosen careers.

To apply, students must be:

- A high school senior
- From at least one of the following ethnicities: African-American, American Indian, Alaska Native, Asian & Pacific Islander American, and/or Hispanic American
- Pell-eligible
- A US citizen, national or permanent resident
- A minimum cumulative weighted GPA of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale
- Additionally, a student must plan to enroll full-time in a four-year degree program at a US accredited, not-for-profit, private or public college or university.

Students have until **September 15, 2017** to apply. Applications can be submitted at [thegatesscholarship.org/scholarship](http://thegatesscholarship.org/scholarship).

## YOUR CONCERNS

### Housing Solutions Discussed in the Senate

The status of our affordable housing projects led the discussion during the recent joint informational briefing at the State Capitol of the Senate and House Committees on Housing.

Committee members heard from Hawai'i Public Housing Authority Director, Hakim Ouansafi, who updated state lawmakers on the variety of projects aimed at addressing the lack of available public housing for Hawai'i residents in need of affordable housing.

The State has identified a need for an additional 64,700 housing units to meet the projected long-term housing demand. To ease the demand, HPHA is hoping to add thousands of housing units along the Honolulu rail route through a public-private partnership. In total, ten transit-oriented development projects identified by HPHA could add up to 10,600 new housing units in the coming years.

Two projects in the early stages of development include the redevelopment of Mayor Wright Housing in Palama and Kuhio Park Terrace in Kalihi. The redevelopment of the Mayor Wright parcel will feature up to 546 housing units

and over 40,000 square feet of commercial space. The project would provide new housing for current residents and create additional affordable workforce housing and market-priced units.

According to the HPHA, there currently is a 10-year, \$815 million repair and maintenance backlog. In the last Legislative session, lawmakers provided \$20.175 million to address the backlog and safety improvements.

In an effort to address the affordable housing crunch, lawmakers passed HB1179 (Act 54) which expands the types of rental housing projects that can be exempt from general excise tax, encouraging the development of rental housing projects targeted for low-income residents.

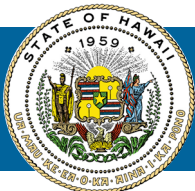
The Legislature also passed SB1244 (Act 159) authorizing the Hawai'i Community Development Authority to waive its right to repurchase affordable housing units and transfer that right to repurchase to a qualified nonprofit housing trust on the condition the units remain affordable housing units.



Hawai'i Public Housing Authority Director, Hakim Ouansafi, talking to legislators in 2016  
AP photo by Cathy Bussewitz



Mayor Wright Housing in Palama  
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