



The Senate
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

Senator Mike Gabbard

Legislative update...

December 2017
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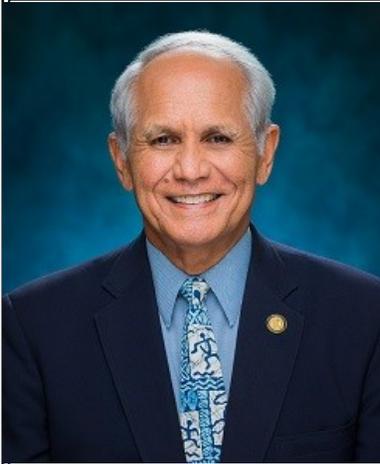
Kapolei, Makakilo and
portions of Ewa,
Kalaeloa and Waipahu

NEXT "LISTEN STORY"

My first Listen Story meeting of 2018 will held Sat., Jan. 27 , 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at Ewa Mahiko District Park, 91-1161 Renton Rd, Ewa Beach, HI 96706

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Aloha e Friends,

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to you and your ohana. Don't miss Kapolei City Lights on December 9th from 5pm to 9pm at Kapolei Hale! The main stage entertainment begins at 5pm, with the West O'ahu Light Parade kicking off at 6pm, and the Tree Lighting at 7pm. Hope to see you there.

As always, please feel free to contact me at 586-6830 or email sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov if I can help you or your family in any way. You can also follow

me on Twitter @senmikegabbard, Instagram @sengabbard, or Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/senmikegabbard>.

DHHL Home Lots to be Awarded

On December 2nd, I'll be attending a Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) Ceremony in Kapolei to announce the awarding of lots to 160 families as part of the East Kapolei II master-planned community. This project is a partnership between DHHL and Gentry Kapolei Development, LLC, which will be building the turn-key homes. Families are scheduled to start moving in starting in July 2018. East Kapolei II is being developed on a 404-acre parcel located mauka of the Ewa Villages Golf Course and east of Kualaka'i Parkway. Within the community, approximately 1,000 single-family houselots will be developed by DHHL. Kauluokahai means "the breadfruit tree [ulu] of Kahai [a Tahitian chief who brought the tree to Oahu from Samoa]". The project infrastructure, including lot grading, roads, water & sewer lines, and telecommunications, benefited from \$14.4 million in federal funds.



Sen. Gabbard toured two of the three schools that make up the Windward Zero Waste School Hui: Ka'ohao Public Charter School K-6 (formerly Lanikai Elementary), and Kainalu Elementary on Nov. 9, with Mindy Jaffe, Hui Coordinator and Resource Recovery Specialist at Ka'ohao School; Lindsey Whitcomb, former Zero Waste Coordinator at Ka'elepulu Elementary, third school in the hui; and Senator Laura Thielen, member of the Ag & Environment Committee, which Gabbard chairs. (story on p. 4)



Third Special Session of 2017

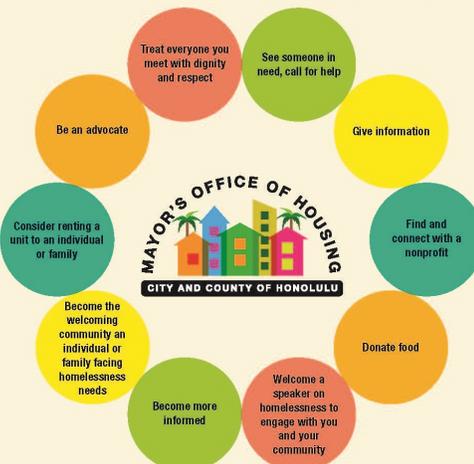
The State Senate held its Third Special Session of 2017 from November 13th to 15th. During that time, we confirmed four judges. As a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I participated in hearings and voted to support the confirmation of the judges. Judge Paul B. Wong, Judge Matthew J. Viola, and Rowena A. Somerville will now serve as judges of the Circuit Court of the First Circuit (O'ahu) for 10 year terms and Jessi K. Hall will be on the District Family Court of the First Circuit for a six year term.

Judges pictured front row, L-R: Paul Wong, Rowena Somerville, Jessi Hall, and Matthew Viola.

Support for Ewa Field

I was asked by American Veterans Hawai'i to offer a letter of support for the designation of the U.S. Marine Corps Air Station "Ewa Field" as a National Historic Monument and National Battlefield. In my November 27th letter to Mr. Ryan Zinke, Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior, I highlighted the following: "On December 7, 1941, just before Pearl Harbor was attacked by Japanese forces, the Battle of Ewa Plain took place over Ewa Field. According to American Veterans Hawai'i, approximately 50 American and Japanese planes were destroyed, with 32 killed and 65 wounded during the battle that ensued that infamous day. On May 9, 2009, in my role as a State Senator, I voted with my colleagues in passing House Concurrent Resolution 49. This resolution expressed the Hawai'i State Legislature's intention to "designate Ewa Field as a National Monument, Museum, and Restored Park." The Makakilo-Kapolei-Honokai Neighborhood Board passed a resolution on May 9, 2016 to support the protection of the Ewa Airfield as a National Historic Monument and National Battlefield Status. I respect the Board's intention to preserve vital historic and cultural resources in the Kalaeloa area. The need for the creation of innovative opportunities for cultural/historic preservation, jobs, infrastructure, and public private partnerships will help realize the Kalaeloa community's vision to become a Wahi Ho'okela (Center of Excellence)."

10 WAYS FOR THE COMMUNITY TO HELP PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS



To learn more about homelessness and solutions that work, please visit the Office of Housing website at www.honolulu.gov/housing. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact the Office of Housing (OfficeofHousing@honolulu.gov; 808.768.4675).

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MAYOR'S OFFICE OF HOUSING

11/2017

10 Ways for the Community to Help People Experiencing Homelessness

Marc Alexander, the Executive Director of the City's Office of Housing provided me with information on 10 Ways for the Community to Help People Experiencing Homelessness. The 10 ways are:

See someone in need, call for help (Statewide Homeless Help Line - 586-0193); Give Information (Dial 211 Aloha United Way); Find and connect with a nonprofit who serves those experiencing homelessness in your community; Donate food; Welcome a speaker on homelessness to engage with you and your community; Become more informed; Become the welcoming community an individual or family facing homelessness needs; Consider renting a unit to an individual or family seeking to move out of homelessness; Be an advocate; and Treat everyone you meet with dignity and respect.

For more information, please visit the Office of Housing website at honolulu.gov/housing or contact them at officeofhousing@honolulu.gov or 768-4675.

UH West O'ahu Campus Tour

I went on a tour of the UH West O'ahu (UHWO) campus with the Senate and House Higher Education Committees on November 20th. I also met separately with UHWO Chancellor Maenette Ah Nee-Benham and her Vice Presidents. During the tour, we met with students, faculty, and administrators. As an update, UHWO currently has an enrollment of 3,082 students and was the fastest growing 4-year university in the U.S. from 2005 to 2015. UHWO is planning to open its new 43,000 sq. ft. Health Sciences and Administration Building by the Fall 2018 and will be breaking ground on a 27,597 sq. ft. Creative Media building in late 2018 or early 2019. Also, two other projects are moving forward on the 991-acres of UHWO land that is on the mauka side of the H1 near the Kualaka'i Intersection. UH is looking at developing a 65 MW solar farm on those lands, which would greatly reduce the campus' \$1 million a year electricity bill. The request for proposals for the solar farm is scheduled to go out in the April/May 2018 timeframe. UHWO is also moving forward on the Center for Sustainable Food Systems Center. The idea is for this project to scale up MA'O Farms' youth leadership program from 40 to 200-250 (MA'O provides college tuition and a stipend in exchange for sweat equity related to the youth learning all aspects of farming and becoming leaders in their communities). Additionally, students from UHWO's Sustainable Community Food Systems program (run by Dr. Albie Miles and has 25 students) will be able to participate and do things like their senior practicums. There will be research conducted on organic farming and development of related programs, such as nutritional cafeteria food. I'm working with Dr. Miles on legislation for the 2018 legislative session to make the Center a reality.



Sen. Gabbard with Brigham Young University students of the RiceUp for Filipino Farmers Student Group, at Ala Wai Golf Course Clubhouse, for the Quad Chamber of Commerce Legislative Forum, Nov. 7. (L-R: Joseph Duano, Elvin J. Austria Laceda, Princess-Stephanie Donato, and Taimi Gutierrez.)



Sen. Gabbard visited Ma'o Organic Farms on Nov. 3, and met with Kamuela Enos, Kauhale Director of Social Enterprise; and Kukui Maunakea-Forth, Executive Director of Ma'o Organic Farms.

Support for MA'O Organic Farms Grant Application

I submitted a letter to the Legacy Land Conservation Program of the Department of Land and Natural Resources on November 16th for MA'O Organic Farms grant application. I stated in my letter that I'm in strong support of funding for MA'O to purchase 21.1 acres of agricultural land in Lualualei on the Wai'anae Coast. The land that they intend to purchase was a vegetable field for many years before the tenant was evicted to build a golf course, which was never built, and later was planned as an industrial park. Given that our state imports 85% to 90% of our food and the average age of local farmers is 61, it's important that we do all we can to help facilitate the production of locally grown fresh food and keep areas like this in agriculture. MA'O brings a special mission along with its farming skills. Young men and women who may have never had an opportunity to attend a college/university get their education supported through MA'O's internship programs. Through MA'O's leadership training, these future teachers, professionals, and leaders can gain the self-confidence, team-building skills, and marketing experience to succeed in a variety of endeavors, such as farming.

Windward Zero Waste School Hui

I was stoked to tour the Windward Zero Waste School Hui on Nov. 9, with Mindy Jaffe, Lindsey Whitcomb, and Senator Laura Thielen. The school hui is made up of 3 schools: Ka'ohao School (formerly named Lanikai Elementary), and Kainalu and Ka'elepulu Elementary schools in Kailua. Mindy is the Hui Coordinator and Resource Recovery Specialist at Ka'ohao School. Lindsey was the Zero Waste Coordinator at Ka'elepulu school. It was exciting to see these young keiki (grades K-6) all participating in a school-wide recycling and zero waste effort, while they learn how to use hot composting and vermicomposting to divert food waste. I saw first-hand, as food went from lunch, to buckets of leftovers, to hot composting piles! The schools reduce non-compostable waste and minimize excess plastic bag use by stacking trays and bowls, and compacting milk cartons. They transform tons of food waste that would normally be collected in dumpsters and tossed into landfills, and turn it into beautiful, organic compost for growing food! Lanikai leads the state and the nation in organics waste reduction, with a consistent near-perfect record of waste collection and on-site processing of food waste, paper, cardboard, and green waste. Ka'ohao School was awarded EPA's 2016 Food Recovery Challenge, category Schools K-12 for 2014-2015 schools across the state.

Limón Rotisserie Opens at Ka Makana Ali'i



Eduardo Castillo, Owner; Martin Castillo, Exe. Chef/Owner; Antonio Castillo, Owner; and their mom, Mrs. Luz Castillo.

I presented an Honorary Certificate at the Grand Opening of the Limón Rotisserie restaurant at Ka Makana Ali'i Mall in Kapolei on November 18th. Founded in 2002, in San Francisco by the Castillo Brothers from Peru—Antonio, Eduardo, and Martin—Limón Rotisserie instantly won the hearts of locals and visitors in the Bay Area. They quickly grew to four busy locations, and the family is thrilled to have opened their first restaurant across the Pacific in our community.



Sen. Gabbard at the Dunkin' Donuts Grand Opening with Aloha Petroleum VP Tom Grimes on Nov. 14.

I welcomed Dunkin' Donuts at their Grand Opening at Kapolei Commons Shopping Center on November 14th. The new restaurant is the third new Dunkin' Donuts restaurant to open in the state under a franchise agreement between Dunkin' Brands and Aloha Petroleum. Dunkin' Donuts is a market leader in the hot regular, decaf, flavored coffee, iced coffee, donut, bagel, and muffin categories, as well as having earned the top ranking for customer loyalty in the coffee category by Brand Keys for eleven years running. Dunkin' Donuts serves more than 3 million customers each and every day. In 1950, Bill Rosenberg opened the first Dunkin' Donuts shop in Quincy, Massachusetts. Just five years later, a franchise legacy was born. Today there are more than 12,300 Dunkin' Donuts restaurants worldwide—that's over 8,500 locations in 46 states across the U.S.A. and over 3,200 international restaurants across 36 countries. Kapolei is fortunate to finally have their own convenient location for donuts, hot coffee, and more.



Proudly, Limón Rotisserie is still a family-owned business to this day. Core to Limón's culinary practices are fresh ingredients, original Peruvian recipes, and unique dishes prepared with contemporary flair. Fostering a sense of community and giving has always been important to the Limón family. In the spirit of aloha and giving back to the community, the Limón Cares program will serve various organizations in our area with food, supplies, or monetary donations. To celebrate their landmark opening in Kapolei, Limón donated much needed supplies for Kapolei Middle School, and invited their guests to put an optional donation into their Limón Cares donation box.