

FROM THE OFFICE OF

SENATOR STANLEY CHANG

East Honolulu Community Newsletter

APRIL 2018

Kalaniana'ole Highway Resurfacing

The Hawai'i Department of Transportation has announced that it will be repaving Kalaniana'ole Highway from the **H-1 to West Hind Drive**. The project is projected to start in **June 2018** with a target completion date in **November 2018**.

The contractor, Grace Pacific, is currently applying for a noise variance for night work to take place between 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. from Sundays to Thursday. Please be aware that project work may affect your commutes. During these nighttime hours, two lanes will be closed in one direction, and contra-flow will be provided resulting in two lanes open in each direction. Should the noise variance be approved, **all lanes will be open and usable during the day**, and on **Friday and Saturday nights**.

The scope of work will include cold planing, resurfacing, reconstructing weakened pavement areas, replacing loop detectors, adjusting utility manhole frames and covers, installing traffic signals backplates with retroreflective borders on all overhead traffic signals, installing milepost reference markers, pavement markings, striping, and signing.

The resurfacing of Kalaniana'ole Highway has been planned for several years, and after community outreach and input the project has finally been set to begin. Kalaniana'ole Highway is the only major artery connecting the population of East Honolulu to the rest of the island, and many of us use it to commute to work everyday.

There is a 30-day public comment period for the proposed community noise variance which ends on **April 15, 2018**. Please provide comments to:

State Department of Transportation
Highways Division, 'Oahu District
727 Kakoi Street (808)-831-6802
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96819 marvin.luckfield@hawaii.gov

Source: Google Maps



► **CALL US**
808-586-8420

► **EMAIL US**

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► **HANDY CONTACTS**

State Pothole Hotline
808-586-7852

City Pothole Hotline
808-768-7777

State Homelessness
gov.homelessness@hawaii.gov
808-586-0193

City Homelessness
complaints@honolulu.gov
808-768-4381

Abandoned Vehicles
808-733-2530

Building Permit
808-768-5555

Trash Collection
808-768-3200

Street Light Repair
808-768-5300

IN THE COMMUNITY



ALOHA, GENERAL WALLACE CHOW

February 25, 2018 ▲ Senator Chang bid a fond aloha to TECO (the Taipei Economic & Cultural Office) Director General Wallace Chow, whose term of service in Hawai'i has ended.



KICK BUTTS DAY

▲ March 20, 2018 was Kick Butts Day, where students from across the state rallied at the Capitol for a tobacco-free Hawaii. Senator Chang was inspired to hear that students took time off their spring break to advocate for this issue.



CITIZENSHIP WORKOUT

March 3, 2018 ▲ Senator Chang joined volunteers in assisting people with applying for US citizenship at a free citizenship workout at Blaisdell Center. The event was sponsored by Unite Here Local 5.



CANCER AWARENESS DAY

▲ March 21, 2018, was Cancer Awareness Day at the State Capitol. Senator Chang met with advocates seeking funding for cancer research.

YOUR CONCERNS



Source: Wikipedia

The legislative session is now over half finished.

A number of our bills are still alive and making their way through the standard process:

SB 270: Bans LGBT conversion therapy

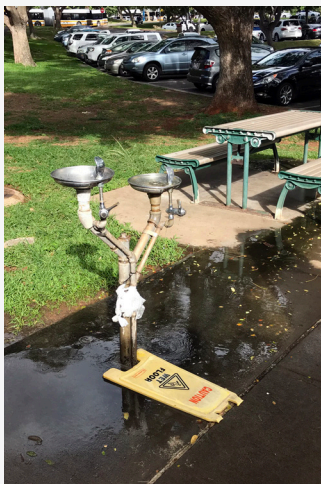
SB 2087: Exempts property owners from liability for rescue tubes

SB 2092: Criminalizes making a false statement to a county inspector

SB 2497: Property insurance for Section 8 landlords

SB 2498: Bans styrofoam containers

SB 2501: Safe zones for homelessness



BEFORE: leaking water fountain



AFTER: repaired fountain

According to a concerned constituent, a water fountain at Kapiolani Community College (KCC) has been leaking for over a year—the individual had been trying to resolve this issue for that long. Given that this fountain lies on land owned by the State of Hawai'i under the Department of Land and Natural Resources, adjacent to the KCC parking lot, and was installed by the City, there were jurisdiction issues as to who is responsible for it. With the help of KCC, the City and County of Honolulu, and DLNR, the fountain was fixed by the first week of March and now offers a safe, convenient place to refresh oneself.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Scam Phone Calls from the IRS



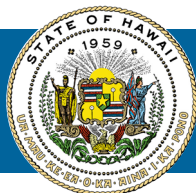
Tax season is soon approaching and the IRS wants to remind people that they can know pretty easily when a supposed IRS caller is a fake. Here are five things the scammers often do but the IRS will not do. Any one of these five things is a tell-tale sign of a scam. The IRS will *never*:

1. Call to demand immediate payment, nor will they call about taxes owed without first having mailed you a bill.
2. Demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe.
3. Require you to use a specific payment method for your taxes, such as a prepaid debit card.
4. Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.
5. Threaten to bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.

If you get a call from someone claiming to be the IRS and *asking for money*, here's what you should do:

- If you know you owe taxes or think you might owe, call the IRS at **800.829.1040**. The IRS workers can help you with a payment issue.
- If you know you don't owe taxes or have no reason to believe that you do, report the incident to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) at **800.366.4484** or at **tigta.gov**.
- You can file a complaint using the FTC Complaint Assistant; choose "Other" and then "Imposter Scams." If the complaint involves impersonation of the IRS, include "IRS Telephone Scam" in the notes.

Remember, too, the IRS *does not* use unsolicited email, texts, or any social media to discuss personal tax issues. For more information on reporting tax scams, go to **irs.gov** and type "**scam**" in the search box.



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