

Serving HONOLULU CITY



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Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

I hope you and your family had a wonderful holiday season.

At the beginning of 2023, reapportionment changed the City Council's district boundaries so we welcomed new neighbors into Council District 7. During the past year, I have enjoyed meeting my new constituency, forming new community partnerships, conducting cleanups, attending community events, and more.

I shared highlights of these activities and events in the 2023 Community Wrap-up newsletter that was mailed at the end of November 2023. If you did not receive it, please contact my office to request a hard copy. Additionally, you may view all my community correspondences, such as newsletters and monthly reports to neighborhood boards, online at http://www4.honolulu.gov/docushare/dsweb/View/Collection-8793.

I am truly grateful to be serving as your Honolulu City Councilmember and look forward to working with you to better our community. Sending best wishes to you and your 'ohana for a happy and prosperous 2024!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

01/09/24

9:00 a.m. - Budget Committee

1:00 p.m. - Executive Matters & Legal Affairs Committee

2:30 p.m. - Transportation Committee

01/10/24

9:00 a.m. - Zoning Committee

1:00 p.m. - Parks, Enterprise & Culture & the Arts Committee

2:30 p.m. - Housing, Sustainability & Health Committee

01/11/24

9:00 a.m. - Planning & the Economy Committee

1:00 p.m. - Public Safety Committee

2:30 p.m. - Executive Management Committee

Cancelled - Public Infrastructure & Technology Committee

01/13/24

8:30 a.m. - Mapunapuna Cleanup (Register to volunteer: https://www.picktime.com/swg)

01/24/24

10:00 a.m. - City Council Meeting

HELPFUL LINKS

To view the 2024 City Council Calendar, please visit honolulucitycouncil.org.



Watch Council Meetings Live on 'Ōlelo 54 or on www.honolulucitycouncil.org



View Bills/Resolutions at https://hnldoc.ehawaii.gov/hnldoc/



Submit Your Testimony Online at https://hnldoc.ehawaii.gov/hnldoc/testimony

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION PROJECT UPDATES

The Department of Parks and Recreation's (DPR) Maintenance Support Services' Division (MSS) team, is working on the following projects in Council District 7:

1. 'Aiea Annex Ballfield and Surrounding Fencing:

• Work on the backstop and fencing, to enhance recreational activities, started on 12/13/23. It is anticipated that this project will be completed by mid-January 2024.

2. Ala Puumalu Community Park's Comfort Station Roof Repair:

o Construction to repair the comfort station roof will begin after the contractor receives a Notice to Proceed.

3. Ala Puumalu Community Park's Parking Lot Renovation:

• DPR is in the procurement phase (waiting for bids from contractors) to renovate the parking lot.

4. Ke'ehi Lagoon Pickleball Court Fencing:

• The project to install fencing at the pickleball court is anticipated to begin in early January 2024.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as these projects move forward. Our office will continue to provide regular updates as the City works towards creating a more vibrant and enjoyable community for all. If you have any questions or concerns, please call (808) 768-5007.

2023 TAX RELIEF RECAP



On the heels of an overall sharp increase in real property tax assessments last year, in 2023 the Honolulu City Council passed several measures to provide tax relief for property owners on Oʻahu in the 2024-25 tax year.

Bill 14 (2023), issued a \$350 one-time real property tax credit to owner-occupant homeowners.

Resolution 23-33, lowered the Real Property Tax Rate for Residential A properties valued at \$1 million or below, reducing taxes by up to \$500 (for qualified homeowners).

Bills 37 (2022) and 40 (2022), increased the income threshold for the income-based real property tax credit from \$60,000 to \$80,000, limiting the amount of property tax owed to no more than 3 percent of a filer's income, and increased the homeowners and kūpuna exemptions by \$20,000 each.

Property owners may file an appeal to dispute their real property assessment between December 15, 2023 and January 15, 2024.

Submission methods:

- Hand-delivered appeals must be received by 4:30 p.m. HST on January 12, 2024.
- Mailed appeals must be postmarked on or before January 13, 2024.
- Appeals filed online at <u>realpropertyhonolulu.com</u> must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. HST, January 15, 2024. A \$50.00 deposit for each appeal is required. Appeals cannot be filed via email or fax.

For more information, call the Appeal Hotline at (808) 768-7000 during the business hours of 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

CONSTRUCTION OF A THREE-STORY COMMERCIAL BUILDING IN 'AIEA

In response to residents' inquiries regarding construction at 99-230 Moanalua Road next to the 'Aiea Shopping Center, Councilmember Cordero obtained information that a three-story commercial office building is being constructed. This building will house a local design and consulting firm and other commercial tenants.

CITY'S PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING REQUIREMENT RULES

The Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) held a public hearing on January 12, 2024, regarding the proposed amendments to the City's Affordable Housing Requirement (AHR) Rules.

The purpose of the proposed amendments is to modify the maximum permissible rents of affordable housing units governed by the AHR Rules and the eligibility requirements for affordable, for-sale housing units.

The proposed rules include amendments that:

- Clarify that for-rent affordable housing projects that have an affordable housing agreement in place on the effective date of the proposed rule are excluded from the proposed rule relating to the 80% area median income rent limit.
- Create a new subsection that establishes a new maximum monthly rent applicable to for-rent affordable housing units for 80% area median income and below households that do not have an affordable housing agreement in place on the effective date of the proposed rule.
- Remove the requirement that an applicant have sufficient gross household income to qualify for the loan to finance the purchase and spends no more than 33% of their gross household income towards monthly housing payments.

Copies of the proposed changes and additional information are available at the DPP's website, www.honolulu.gov/dpp. To view the public hearing notice, please visit tinyurl.com/DPP-AHR-PublicHearingNotice.



PAID 2024 SUMMER INTERN PROGRAM

The City's Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM), Storm Water Quality (SWQ) Division is seeking applicants for their paid 2024 Summer Intern Program.

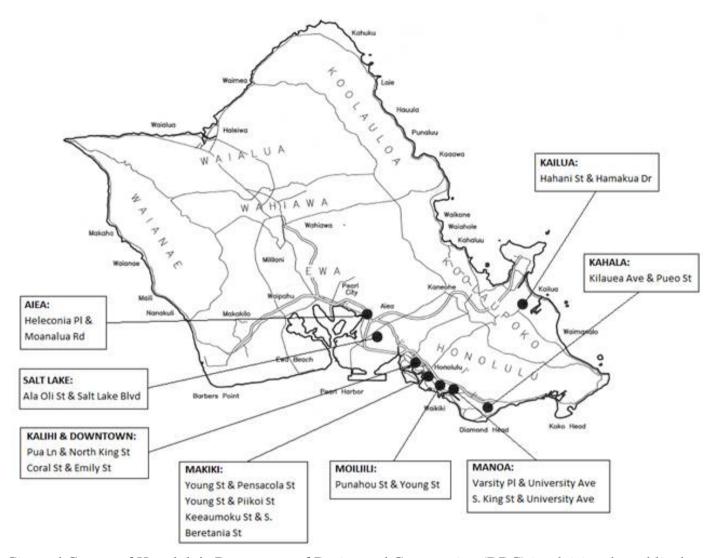
Interns must be a Hawai'i resident and enrolled in a college or university. Best fit majors include all Engineering, Environmental Science, Natural Science, Hawaiian Studies, Creative Media, Sociology, and Education.

Work Location: Kapolei Hale

Work Hours: 7:30 am to 4:30 p.m./40 hours per week Pay up to \$16.75/hour for 12 weeks (May to September)

The deadline to submit your applications is on January 19, 2024. For more information, please email cleanwater@honolulu.gov.

CITY TO PERFORM CURB RAMP WORK AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS



The City and County of Honolulu's Department of Design and Construction (DDC) is advising the public that a curb ramp project at various locations on Oʻahu will begin on January 16, 2024. The work is expected to be completed by the end of July 2024. Work is expected to run on weekdays, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., excluding holidays.

The project includes, but is not limited to, the demolition, removal and disposal of existing pavements, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, and curb ramps; construction of new sidewalks, curb ramps, and curb and gutters; reconstructing of pavement transitions; adjustment of utility box frames and covers; and restoration of all pavement striping.

Pedestrians and motorists are advised to proceed with caution, observe all traffic control devices and no parking signs. Please use extreme caution in these areas or use alternate routes. Please observe and obey all traffic controls, posted signs and Special Duty Officers. Drivers should anticipate delays and allow extra travel time while traveling through the work area.

The areas affected by the curb ramp project in our Council district include:

- 'Aiea on Heleconia Place and Moanalua Road.
- Salt Lake on Ala Oli Street and Salt Lake Boulevard.

The City's contractors will work efficiently and safely to minimize the inconvenience to the neighborhood. The City appreciates the patience of the community during this process. For more information or if you have any questions or concerns, please contact the DCC at (808) 768-8400.