



# Councilmember **RADIANT CORDERO**

Serving  
**HONOLULU CITY  
COUNCIL DISTRICT 7**



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## COMMENDATION CEREMONY FOR FIRE CAPTAIN RYAN CHONG



Councilmember Cordero extends her heartfelt appreciation to Fire Captain Ryan Chong, a resident of Council District 7, who served as the commanding officer during the New Year's Day mass casualty fireworks incident on January 1, 2025. As the first to arrive on scene, Captain Chong demonstrated exemplary leadership and composure, taking immediate control of a complex, multi-agency emergency response. His swift and decisive actions were instrumental in stabilizing the situation and safeguarding the community.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**6/17/25**

2:00 p.m. - [Special City Council Meeting](#)

6:00 p.m. - [Special Zoning Committee](#)

**6/24/25**

9:00 a.m. - Budget Committee

1:00 p.m. - Housing, Sustainability, Economy  
& Health Committee

2:30 p.m. - Parks Committee

**6/25/25**

9:00 a.m. - Planning, Infrastructure &  
Transportation Committee

1:00 p.m. - International & Legal Affairs  
Committee

2:30 p.m. - Executive Management Committee  
(as needed)

**6/26/25**

9:00 a.m. - Zoning Committee

1:00 p.m. - Public Safety & Customer Services  
Committee

2:30 p.m. - Innovation, Technology &  
Entertainment Committee

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## HELPFUL LINKS

View Councilmember Cordero's District  
Page at [honolulucitycouncil.org/district-7-cordero](https://honolulucitycouncil.org/district-7-cordero)

Watch Council Meetings on 'Ōlelo 54 or on  
[youtube.com/@HonoluluCityCouncil](https://youtube.com/@HonoluluCityCouncil)

View Bills/Resolutions at  
[hnlldoc.hawaii.gov/hnlldoc](https://hnlldoc.hawaii.gov/hnlldoc)

Submit Your Testimony Online at  
[hnlldoc.hawaii.gov/hnlldoc/testimony](https://hnlldoc.hawaii.gov/hnlldoc/testimony)

## MEMORIAL DAY TRIBUTE AT PŪOWAINA



On May 26, Councilmember Cordero stood alongside Governor Josh Green, Mayor Rick Blangiardi, fellow Councilmembers, State legislators, and other City and State leaders at Pūowaina to honor the courageous men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice so we may live in peace. In the quiet, solemn moments of Memorial Day, all gathered to pay tribute to generations of service and dedication. Together, they remembered that the legacy of these heroes lives on in the community's unity, gratitude, and aloha.

## UPDATES ON COMMUNITY CONCERNS

### **'Aiea Heights Drive Sidewalk Improvements**

The Department of Transportation Services (DTS) Complete Streets Administrator shared the following relating to sidewalk improvements on 'Aiea Heights Drive:

"The City and County of Honolulu has roughly 900 miles of missing walkways along our local roadways, and building them is neither simple nor cheap. The O'ahu Pedestrian Plan (2022) prioritizes our missing walkways based on an analysis of data that considers multiple factors, such as bus routes, proximity to schools, and crash history.

The O'ahu Pedestrian Plan identifies this segment of 'Aiea Heights Drive [(Ulune Street to Hoio Street)] is a Tier 2 priority missing walkway, however, the City does not have sufficient staff resources or funding at this time to initiate this improvement as a stand-alone project. Therefore, this missing sidewalk segment will be addressed in future years, likely as part of a future roadway repaving and rehabilitation project."

Councilmember Cordero has shared with DTS that these improvements are very important to her, and as such, they are on the list for future consideration. For more information on the O'ahu Pedestrian Plan, visit [honolulu.gov/completestreets/o'ahu-pedestrian-plan/](https://honolulu.gov/completestreets/o%27ahu-pedestrian-plan/). For any questions, email [completestreets@honolulu.gov](mailto:completestreets@honolulu.gov).

### **Makalapa Neighborhood Park Irrigation System**

The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) is in the process of working on the irrigation system at Makalapa Neighborhood Park, relocating the electrical box that controls the irrigation system from the site of the old comfort station to another location within the park. Once this is complete, a new irrigation system will be installed to help the park's trees grow and thrive.

### **Trees on 'Aiea Heights Drive**

On March 18, 2025, DPR's Division of Urban Forestry (DUF) arborist inspected 10 City golden trumpet (*Tabebuia ochracea*) trees right above 99-1291 'Aiea Heights Drive, fronting 91-1297 and 91-1299 'Aiea Heights Drive. The arborist found the trees adequately maintained, with sufficient canopy clearance and no branches posing immediate public safety concerns. These trees were last pruned on January 5, 2022, by a private contractor hired by the City. No maintenance is required at this time.

The City aims to preserve as many trees as possible; however, dead, dying, diseased, or damaged trees may be removed for public safety. No conditions compromising the health or stability of these trees were found, so removal is not warranted at this time.

DUF remains committed to keeping O'ahu cool by planting and maintaining trees throughout our community. Trees provide important environmental functions and enhance quality of life. DUF takes public safety very seriously, and regularly inspects trees to remove diseased trees and prune weak limbs.

### **'Aiea District Park Gym Updates**

Councilmember Cordero is happy to report that the gym reopened on June 9!

The gym underwent roof construction. Councilmember Cordero also collaborated with DPR to utilize extra funding available for her Council District to repair and re-line the gym court. The contract for roofing work did not include repairs or improvements to the courts or fixtures to address leaks.

DPR shared that it offers free-play pickleball on weekends and evenings. Starting in August, free-play pickleball will also be available in the mornings.

## UPDATES ON COMMUNITY CONCERNS (CONTINUED)

### **Hālawā District Park Updates:**

#### *Homeless Concerns*

Regarding concerns with homeless individuals loitering on park grounds, DPR is coordinating with the City's Community Based Development Division, which provides support through programs like HONU to help individuals transition off the streets and receive appropriate services. Due to Hālawā District Park being a public park, all park users are allowed to be on park grounds during park hours from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. However, DPR will post signs regarding personal belongings being stored on City property.

On May 23, 2025, the Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM) Stored Property Ordinance (SPO) Branch assisted the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) and DPR in enforcing and clearing encampments at the park. They removed and cleaned the area of all trash and debris.

DFM's SPO Branch was available to impound personal property but did not remove any personal property since nothing was left unattended in the area. The Department of Community Services has been advised of the reported encampments for future reference and outreach services. DPR and HPD will continue to monitor this portion of the park and conduct enforcement as needed.

#### *Unleashed and Aggressive Dogs*

Park staff remains vigilant regarding unleashed and aggressive dogs, and has been contacting the police and the Hawaiian Humane Society for assistance. DPR is collaborating with HPD officers to address and resolve this issue more effectively.

#### *Concerns with Current Park Hours*

DPR understands the community's safety concerns and has been actively working to address these issues. They continually reevaluate options to balance the community and park users needs fairly and respectfully. For instance, DPR considered a request to close the Apela Street access gate earlier than the 'Iwa'iwa Street gates, but unfortunately, this is not currently feasible due to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) restrictions. While both lots are ADA accessible, the Apela lot was designed for picnic, court, and upper field use, while the 'Iwa'iwa lot supports lower field and gym activities. Early closure of either lot would restrict ADA access for those specific areas.

DPR also considered a request to close the park earlier due to nighttime noise concerns. However, as a City facility, the park is intended to serve as a safe space that promotes health, wellness, and community engagement. The gym is permitted for use by youth, adult, and senior sports leagues, church groups, and other organizations for activities scheduled through 9:00 p.m. DPR staff also work hard to organize family-friendly events such as the Halloween Trunk-or-Treat and Easter Egg Hunt. An earlier closure would not only limit access for those unable to attend within shortened hours but would also significantly impact the ability to host these valued community events.

If the community wishes to propose a change to the park's closure time, DPR encourages residents to bring the request to their Neighborhood Board meeting. This allows for open discussion and ensures that the needs of both the community and park users are considered fairly and equitably.

#### *Repairs and Community Safety Efforts*

DPR shared that work orders have been submitted to repair vandalized dugouts and broken picnic tables at the park. Park staff are also working with community user groups and organizations to assist with field maintenance. Additionally, the Adopt-A-Park group has been reminded of its responsibilities and scope of its involvement under the Adopt-A-Park program.

Councilmember Cordero remains committed to keeping the park and surrounding community safe. She will continue to work collaboratively with DPR to ensure the needs of the community and park users are addressed equitably. As a part of this shared effort, the community is encouraged to call 911 to report any illegal or suspicious activity. Councilmember Cordero appreciates the community staying vigilant.

## UPDATES ON COMMUNITY CONCERNS (CONTINUED)

### HPD Enforcement on Kahuapaani Street

On various days from May 11 to 18, 2025, between the hours of 5 p.m. to 11 p.m., HPD District 3 ('Aiea/Pearl City/Waipahu) officers conducted enforcement on Kahuapaani Street and did not observe any speeding or other traffic infractions. Their presence may have helped to deter violations. When not responding to 911 calls for service or tending to related matters, officers will monitor the area and take appropriate enforcement action when violations are observed.

### HPD Enforcement on Moanalua Road

On May 9 and 18, 2025, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., HPD District 3 ('Aiea/Pearl City/Waipahu) officers conducted enforcement on Moanalua Road, fronting St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, and did not observe any speeding or other traffic infractions. Their presence may have helped to deter violations. When not responding to 911 calls for service or tending to related matters, officers will continue to monitor the area and take appropriate enforcement action when violations are observed.

Councilmember Cordero is still awaiting a written response from the DTS regarding results of its investigation and evaluation to improve motorists' safety in this area, such as improving signage/sight distance or lane modifications, and will keep the community apprised of any updates.

### Puumakani Street Overgrowth

Councilmember Cordero heard from the Navy/NAVFAC that a Navy project is underway affecting the area from Ulune Street to Puumakani Street. The Navy is modifying their contractor requirements to support clearing vegetation but currently has no estimated completion date and are tracking this issue.

Other options to expedite clearing were considered, but liability and safety concerns require waiting for the contract modification. For inquiries, contact NAVFAC Pacific Public Affairs Office at (808) 472-1008 or NAVFAC\_PAC\_PAO@us.navy.mil.

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## PROPOSED BUS ROUTE CHANGES

To coincide with the anticipated October 1, 2025, opening of Skyline's second segment, the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) has proposed several bus service changes to improve connections between TheBus and rail. The following are some changes that may affect Council District 7:

- Route A will end at Pearlridge Station, improving direct access to Downtown and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.
- Route 20 will be discontinued and replaced by the new W Line, offering limited-stop service between the airport and Waikīkī.
- Route 303 will be replaced by Route 331, connecting Māpunapuna to Āhua (Lagoon Drive) Station.
- New U Line will provide weekday service between Māpunapuna and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

For a detailed overview of the proposed bus service changes related to the second phase of Skyline, including maps and route information, please refer to DTS' presentation at [tinyurl.com/Phase2-Skyline-Bus-Changes](https://tinyurl.com/Phase2-Skyline-Bus-Changes). For questions or to provide comments, please contact DTS at thebusstop@honolulu.gov or (808) 768-8368.



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATES: BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

### **Bill 31 (2025), CD1 – Relating to the Transit Construction Mitigation Fund**

Co-introduced by Councilmembers Tyler Dos Santos-Tam and Cordero, Bill 31 seeks to amend the Transit Construction Mitigation Fund to expand eligibility for businesses affected by construction of the Skyline rail project.

At the May 27 Committee on Budget hearing, key amendments were adopted to: (1) Raise the annual revenue cap for eligible businesses from \$750,000 to \$1 million; and (2) Require that businesses must have been open for at least 12 months prior to the start of any rail construction in their area to qualify for a grant. This Bill passed Third Reading at the June 4 Council Meeting, and has been transmitted to the Mayor for his approval.

### **Bill 47 (2025) – Relating to Agreements**

For the purposes of transparency and City Council oversight of City activities, Councilmembers Matt Weyer and Cordero co-introduced this bill to require the City Administration to provide a 15-day advance notice to the Council before entering into any intergovernmental or private grant agreement. This Bill also includes a process by which the Council can call for the Administration to submit a grant request via a resolution, which would be subject to approval by the Council. This Bill passed First Reading at the June 4 Council Meeting.

### **Bill 60 (2024), CD2 – To Amend Charter 43 of the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021, Relating to Sewers, Drainage, and Cesspools**

The Committee on Budget advanced Bill 60 (2025), CD1, which increases sewer fees. Proposed by the City Administration, this Bill proposed sewer fee increases over a 10-year period, with 9% annual increases for the first six years, followed by smaller increases of 8%, 7%, 6%, and 5% in the final four years.

During the Budget Committee hearing on May 27, Committee Chair Tyler Dos Santos-Tam recommended a revised CD2 version, which shortens the 10-year timeline to six years, beginning January 1, 2026. Under this amendment, a typical single-family household using 6,000 gallons per month—about 50% of households—would see a 6% increase in FY 2026, 7.5% in FY 2027, 8.5% in FY 2028, and 9% annually through FY 2031. This Bill passed Third Reading as amended at the June 4 Council Meeting, and has been transmitted to the Mayor for his approval.

### **Resolution 25-128, CD1, FD1 – Authorizing the Use of Overt Video Monitoring in the City and County of Honolulu in City Parks**

In an effort to deter crime and improve public safety, Councilmember Cordero introduced Resolution 25-128 to authorize the Honolulu Police Department to conduct overt video monitoring in select City parks as part of a one-year pilot program. The pilot program allows for visible surveillance cameras to be installed in at least one park in all nine Council Districts. In the CD1 version, the names of the parks in each council district were identified, the scope of the pilot program was expanded to include City park-and-ride facilities, and the title was changed to “Authorizing the Use of Overt Video Monitoring in the City and County of Honolulu in City Parks and City Park and Rides.”

In order to address concerns regarding privacy, Councilmember Cordero introduced a proposed FD1 that includes a clause that any cameras installed must not face private property. This Resolution was amended to a FD1 and adopted at the June 4 Council Meeting.

**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO RECOGNIZE PRIDE MONTH**

[Photo Courtesy of Press Release:](#) *Pride flag flying outside the Fasi Municipal Building*

Mayor Rick Blangiardi announced that the Pride Flag will once again fly outside the Frank F. Fasi Municipal Building for the entire month of June in recognition of Pride Month.

The annual flag raising is a visible symbol of the City's steadfast commitment to creating a respectful and welcoming community for all, regardless of their sexuality, gender, ethnicity, age, religion, nationality, or any other defining traits.

To further mark the occasion, Mayor Blangiardi has also directed that Honolulu Hale and the Neal S. Blaisdell Arena be illuminated in the rainbow colors of the Pride Flag from sundown on Monday, June 23, 2025, through sunrise on Monday, June 30, 2025.

Pride Month is observed annually in June to honor the legacy of the Stonewall Uprising of 1969 in New York City—a pivotal moment in the LGBTQ+ civil rights movement. In addition to celebrating Pride in June, Honolulu also recognizes LGBTQ+ history and progress during the month of October in alignment with National Coming Out Day (October 11) and LGBT History Month.

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**CITY'S DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES ANNOUNCES EXPANDED HOURS FOR REGISTERING MOPEDS AND BIKES**

Regular business hours at the main office for registering mopeds and bicycles in the City and County of Honolulu will change on June 1 to better meet public demand by operating on an appointment-only basis.

The new hours will be between 8:00 a.m. and noon daily at the Bicycle, Moped, and Business License office at the Kapālama Driver Licensing Center. Previously, the office was open from 8 a.m. to noon only twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The expanded business hours will allow the office to register significantly more mopeds, bicycles, and e-bikes on a weekly basis. For example, the total number of weekly appointment slots to register mopeds, bicycles, and e-bikes will increase to 90 from 36.

Appointments can be made online at [AlohaQ.org](https://AlohaQ.org).

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