

**Councilmember  
RADIANT  
CORDERO**

**Serving  
HONOLULU CITY  
COUNCIL DISTRICT 7**



*Paid for (or paid in part) by the taxpayers of the City and County of Honolulu.*

**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU AND YOUR 'OHANA**



*Councilmember Cordero (right) and her team wishes you a Happy New Year!  
"May The First Be With You!"*

I hope you had a great 2025 holiday season and I wish you and your 'ohana good health, happiness, and prosperity in the year ahead!

This year, I look forward to continuing working with our neighbors in Council District 7 to improve our community—be it through legislation and policy measures here at the City Council, partnerships on park and community cleanups, and my Council-Community Corner remote office pop-up events.

I encourage you to check the Calendar of Events for upcoming Council meetings and community events that you may wish to participate in.

As always, if you need assistance on any City-related matters, please feel free to contact my office at (808) 768-5007 or email me at [rcordero@honolulu.gov](mailto:rcordero@honolulu.gov).

Mahalo,

**Radiant Cordero**  
Councilmember, District 7

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**01/28/26**

10:00 a.m. - City Council Meeting

**02/03/26**

9:00 a.m. - Budget Committee  
1:00 p.m. - Energy, Environment & Sustainability Committee  
2:30 p.m. - Housing, Homelessness & Parks Committee

**02/04/26**

9:00 a.m. - Infrastructure, Transportation & Technology Committee  
1:00 p.m. - International & Legal Affairs Committee  
2:30 p.m. - Executive Management Committee (as needed)

**02/05/26**

9:00 a.m. - Zoning & Planning Committee  
1:00 p.m. - Public Safety & Economy Committee  
2:30 p.m. - Government Efficiency & Customer Services Committee

**02/18/26**

10:00 a.m. - City Council Meeting

**HELPFUL LINKS**

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

Watch Council Meetings Live on 'Ōlelo 54 or on [honolulucitycouncil.org](http://honolulucitycouncil.org)

View Bills/Resolutions at [hnldoc.ehawaii.gov/hnldoc](http://hnldoc.ehawaii.gov/hnldoc)

Submit Your Testimony Online at [hnldoc.ehawaii.gov/hnldoc/testimony](http://hnldoc.ehawaii.gov/hnldoc/testimony)

## UPDATES ON COMMUNITY CONCERNS

### **Faded Street Signs Reported along Moanalua Road**

Following a site visit on November 25, 2025, Councilmember Cordero requested the Department of Facility Maintenance's (DFM) Division of Road Maintenance assist with replacing faded street signs at Moanalua Road and Ka'amilo Street (Service Request [SR] # 68705) and Moanalua Road and Honomanu Street (SR# 68706).

### **Potholes on Moanalua Road near Ualo Street**

DFM Roads initiated Service Request No. 69582 to fill pot holes in the westbound direction on Moanalua Road near the Ualo Street mid-block crosswalk.

### **Repaving Work on Ali‘ipoe Drive**

On November 20, 2025, a Board of Water Supply (BWS) supervisor investigated a request for the status and anticipated timeline of the repaving work on Ali‘ipoe Drive.

BWS notified its paving contractor on October 29, 2025, that under its contract they had until December 23, 2025, to complete the permanent repairs. BWS will continue to monitor the temporary patch in the meantime. Please note that an active construction project in the area may extend the repair schedule and BWS is unable to provide a definitive timeline at this time.

### **99-505 Ali‘ipoe Drive & 99-448 Ulune Street**

The Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) records show that Building Permit No. 920017 indicates a total of five parking spaces have been provided, meeting the five parking minimum based on the indicated floor area of the dwelling. The parking stall closest to the street is only one of those five.

Building Permit No. A2024-05-1366 for 99-505 Ali‘ipoe Drive was reviewed and approved by the DPP Traffic Review Branch on November 23, 2024. The wall/fence meets sight distance requirements. The wall is to be 36 inches maximum height with a vinyl fence on top with 12-inch spacing between the pickets for visibility. There are no standards to use for drivers who perform illegal maneuvers, such as running a red light.

The DPP Building Inspection Section also conducted an investigation at 99-448 Ulune Street and confirmed that Building Permit No. 911582 is being constructed in accordance with approved plans.

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

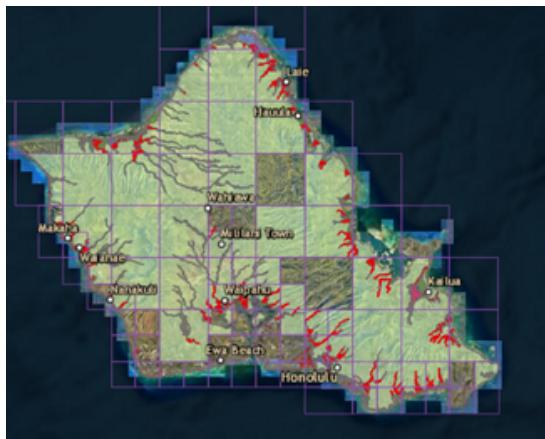
In response to the record number of traffic fatalities in 2025 and reports that many roadway users, especially drivers, are not obeying the rules of the road, Councilmember Cordero has introduced two resolutions that aim to increase roadway safety by asking the State to consider altering its driver's license process to include additional information in educational materials and a test for license renewals.

**RESOLUTION 26-1 - Knowledge of the Rules of the Road for Driver's License Renewals**, requests the Hawai‘i Department of Transportation (HDOT) to consider implementing a test for applicants renewing their driver's licenses. Currently, only one written test is required to receive a driver's license. However, State laws and City ordinances pertaining to the rules of the road are constantly updated and the public is not always aware of the changes. Additionally, it is important to remind drivers that driving is a privilege, not a right, and that increasing awareness of driving laws within the community will promote the health and welfare of all users of our transportation systems.

**RESOLUTION 26-2 - Knowledge of Pedestrian Safety, Bicyclist Rights and Interactions, and Multimodal Roadway Use as Part of the Driver Education Requirements**, requests the HDOT to include information and questions on pedestrian safety and multimodal roadway use in the driver's license test and associated educational materials; and requests the Hawai‘i Department of Education (DOE) to include similar information in its driver education content. Including in the driver's license test information on alternative modes of transportation could aid drivers in being mindful of the rights and safety of all roadway users. Additionally, teaching this information in public schools during students' formative years could lead to safer pedestrians, drivers, and bicyclists, on our roadways.

Both resolutions are scheduled to be adopted at the City Council meeting tomorrow, Wednesday, January 28, at 10:00 a.m. The agenda may be viewed here: <https://hnldoc.ehawaii.gov/hnldoc/document-download?id=26973>.

## FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY FLOOD ZONE MAP COMMUNITY MEETINGS



The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Hawai‘i Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and the City and County of Honolulu are encouraging residents to familiarize themselves with the updated FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for O‘ahu and prepare for changes to flood insurance requirements and building regulations if newly mapped. *These updated maps provide critical new insights into evolving flood risk across the island and become effective June 10, 2026.*

Since 2019, FEMA has studied numerous streams across O‘ahu, many of which had never been evaluated before. Based on these studies, FEMA released preliminary updates to O‘ahu’s FIRM on July 31, 2024.

As a result of these updates, some properties were re-classified within high-risk zones — known as Special Flood Hazard Areas — for the first time. On December 10, 2025, FEMA issued a Letter of Final Determination for the City’s preliminary FIRM maps. The letter starts a six-month compliance period with the maps becoming effective June 10, 2026, giving property owners and the City time to prepare.

Once the updated FIRM becomes effective on June 10, 2026, property owners who are located in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) and possess a federally-backed loan or mortgage may be required by their lender to obtain flood insurance. Additionally, all property owners in the SFHA will need to comply with Revised Ordinances of Honolulu Chapter 21A – Flood Hazard Areas building regulations.

Oahu residents can check if their property is affected by visiting [resilientoahu.org/GetFloodReady](http://resilientoahu.org/GetFloodReady). The City encourages residents whose properties are now designated as being within Special Flood Hazard Areas to contact their insurance providers during the compliance period to confirm whether flood insurance coverage is required and to explore available options and costs. If required, failure to obtain flood insurance may result in a policy being force-placed by their lender within 45-days after the effective date (June 10, 2026). Having a policy force-placed means residents would have no control over the policy cost or coverage terms. Residents are encouraged to talk with their insurance providers to determine if they are eligible for pre-FIRM or newly mapped discounts.

To help the community better understand these updates and their implications, FEMA held a virtual Open House and two in-person Open Houses this month where FEMA, the City, and DLNR representatives provided valuable information on the FIRM update process, flood risks, potential changes to flood insurance requirements, and steps residents can take to protect their properties from flooding.

In 2021, the City proactively joined FEMA’s National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System, a voluntary program that rewards strong floodplain management practices with discounts on flood insurance premiums. As a result, National Flood Insurance Program policyholders in Honolulu enjoy a 10% reduction in annual premiums, helping to ease the burden of flood insurance costs. Additionally, discounts may be available through the National Flood Insurance Program and residents are encouraged to attend an open house to learn more.

To learn about the map changes, explore resources on flood insurance, and find out if your property is affected, visit [resilientoahu.org/GetFloodReady](http://resilientoahu.org/GetFloodReady). For more information on the updated flood maps and to download the FIRMs, visit FEMA’s Flood Map Service Center. For specific map questions, contact FEMA’s Mapping and Insurance eXchange (FMIX) via [email](mailto:email) or 877-336-2627. FMIX hours of operation are weekdays from 8 a.m. EST/1 a.m. HST to 6:30 p.m. EST/11:30 p.m. HST.

## CITY COUNCIL 2026 CALENDAR

The City Council's meeting schedule for 2026 is now available.

To view the calendar, including committees, committee chairs and memberships, and meeting days and times, please visit the Honolulu City Council website at [www.honolulucitycouncil.org](http://www.honolulucitycouncil.org).

## **'AIEA HONGWANJI PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN VISITS CITY COUNCIL'**



Over 40 keiki from 'Aiea Hongwanji Preschool and Kindergarten, accompanied by their teachers and parents, joined Councilmember Cordero's staff for a visit to the City Council Chamber and a tour of Honolulu Hale. This annual field trip in December is a great opportunity for the students to see the seat of county government and experience Honolulu City Lights, when the Hale and Civic Center grounds are decorated for the holidays!

## CITY ADDS SATURDAY HOURS TO RENEW DRIVER'S LICENSES

O'ahu motorists, whose driver's licenses are expiring within six months, will be able to renew them on Saturdays on an appointment-only basis, starting Jan. 31.

The Saturday hours for in-person service at the Pearlridge Satellite City Hall and Kapālama Driving Licensing Center are being offered to help meet demand for the 110,744 driver's licenses in the City and County of Honolulu with 2026 expiration dates.

The Kapahulu Road Test Office will also offer the behind-the-wheel driving exam by appointment only on certain Saturdays at least through February.

"The Saturday hours we'll be offering are taking on new meaning this year as we scale up service to satisfy public demand for driver's licenses and state IDs," said Department of Customer Services Director Kim Hashiro, who oversees satellite city halls and driver licensing centers in the City and County of Honolulu.

A driver's license can be renewed up to 6 months before its expiration date without losing the regular anniversary date. Appointments for renewing a driver's license or state identification card can be made at [www.alohaQ.org](http://www.alohaQ.org).

Plans are to offer Saturday hours throughout the year; however, the initial Saturday hours are set through February. Here is the schedule:

- Pearlridge Satellite City Hall – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Jan. 31 & Feb. 7
- Kapālama Driver Licensing Center – 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Jan. 31 & Feb. 21
- Kapahulu Road Test Office – 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Jan. 31 & Feb. 21

For more information, visit [www.honolulu.gov/csd](http://www.honolulu.gov/csd).