

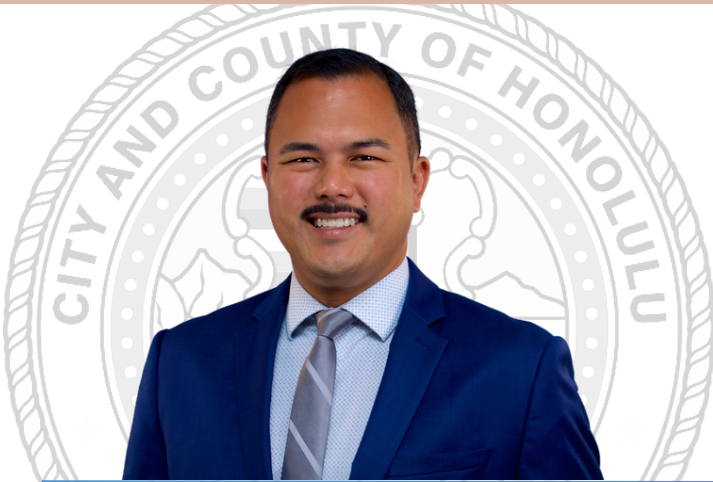
# DISTRICT 6 UPDATE

AUGUST 2023

[honoluluycitycouncil.org](http://honoluluycitycouncil.org)

COUNCILMEMBER TYLER DOS SANTOS-TAM

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## Aloha Neighbors!

I am honored to have the opportunity to serve and represent District 6 at the Honolulu City Council. Together, we will make our community safer and more equitable. I am excited to get started. Make sure you follow me on social media for regular updates! If you'd like to let us know about an issue that we can help to resolve, please feel free to contact my office. We're here to serve you!

*-Tyler*

## Community Meeting For KPT Residents and Neighbors on August 31st

CM Dos Santos-Tam, Senator Donna Mercado Kim, and Representative Sonny Ganaden will be hosting a Community Meeting on August 31, from 6:00-7:00 PM, and checkin starts at 5:30 PM. The meeting is located at the Community Hall at the Towers at Kuhio Park on 1475 Linapuni Street. **Please come and join us!**

Additionally, there will be a KPT Job Fair on August 3rd. The event is in response to the community's need to obtain the necessary supplies, clothing, wellness checks, and shots for their keiki as they enter the new school year. The day will also be an opportunity for KPT residents and job seekers to be connected with union apprenticeships, organizations, and employers.



**Councilmember** Tyler Dos Santos-Tam    **Senator** Donna Mercado Kim    **Representative** Sonny Ganaden

## Bill 28: Overdose Reversing Medicine Signed into Law



On July 25, Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam attended the signing of Bill 28 relating to Naloxone that requires bars, nightclubs, and other types of liquor-licensed establishments to have at least two doses of Naloxone or Narcan on the premises. Naloxone is an FDA-approved, over-the-counter medication that reverses the effect of opioids in someone's body in case of an accidental overdose. All managers of these business establishments must be trained on how to administer Naloxone. These establishments can be sites of unintended overdoses because alcohol and opioids combined can drastically increase the the likelihood of an overdose. This opioid-reversing nasal spray will save lives. It puts a life-saving medication in the places that need it. It will prevent more tragedies from happening.

CM Dos Santos-Tam observing Mayor Blangiardi signing Bill 28 into law with Emergency Management Services and Chinatown bar owners.

### More Information:

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# BILLS & LEGISLATION

honolulucitycouncil.org

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## Proposed Gamerooms Legislation



This month, CM Dos Santos-Tam will propose legislation with CM Andria Tupola involving illegal game rooms. Our two districts have the most illegal game rooms, which affects our communities. Often the presence of game rooms invites other forms of unwanted or illicit behavior such as gambling, drug distribution, vandalism, litter, noise, and loitering. One bill will be related to **public nuisance**, specifically that property owners - the game rooms' landlords - would be obligated to keep their property free from unsafe conditions that harm or threaten the welfare of the public. If an illegal game room is occurring on the premises the owner is responsible, and will pay civil fines. The next is a bill that would permit **authorized DPP, HPD, and other City personnel** to enforce certain provisions of the building and construction code. Only authorized personnel can serve notice of violation or order to the responsible party to compel them into compliance usually through civil fines. The final is a **resolution on coordination**, imploring numerous City departments designated to enforce City building, fire, and zoning codes to work with the Honolulu Police Dept. (HPD) to gather and streamline evidence of such violations, particularly when illegal game rooms are suspected.

## Bill 40: Transit Construction Mitigation Fund

Bill 40 (23) is a bill that CM Dos Santos-Tam and CM Cordero have introduced which would give the department of Budget and Fiscal Services (BFS) additional requirements to abide by when administering the Transit Construction Mitigation Fund. The purpose of the is to assist businesses experiencing revenue loss during rail construction along the Dillingham Corridor. Our office is working with other City departments to create a system in which a form of relief can be made available for those affected businesses. The bill is moving on to Second Reading.



## Bill 44: Making False Statements to City Officials

The purpose of Bill 44 (23) is to deter people from making or inciting the making of a false statement to a City Official. It is general to apply broadly. But CM Dos Santos-Tam's interest is in targeting those who knowingly building monster homes in residential areas, often in properties zoned and designated for single family use. Monster home compounds a number of other issues such as infrastructure, parking, and more. At the most recent Committee meeting on this bill, there was good discussion about possible amendments. There is still work to be done on the bill refining and editing as it goes through the legislative process. The bill in moving on to Second Reading.

## Governor Josh Green Signs a Package of Traffic Safety Bills

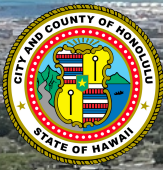


On July 6, CM Dos Santos-Tam joined several of his State colleagues to attend a signing ceremony by Governor Green on seven key traffic safety bills. Importantly for our district, HB600 was signed, which deals with safe routes to schools, and was introduced by Kalihi-area legislator Rep. Sonny Ganaden. When the State and City work together, we can better ensure pedestrian safety and help to make much-needed upgrades.



CM Dos Santos-Tam spoke to the importance of comprehensive traffic safety bills, and was able to see the signing with other Legislators.





# IN THE COMMUNITY

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## Rental & Utility Help at the Lanakila Senior Center

On Wednesday, July 19 and Thursday, July 27 an in-person enrollment event took place at the Lanakila Multipurpose Senior Center and the Filipino Community Center. The resources offered to renters included legal assistance and mediation through the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii to provide advice about their rights. Mediation is a free service that can help renters and their landlords to reach an agreement when there is a dispute. Rent support and utility bill assistance was also provided through the City's Rental and Utility Relief Program. At least 100 people signed up for appointments and about 25 walk-ins came to the Lanakila event.

Right: Volunteers and workers at the Lanakila Senior Center ready to help incoming applicants.



## New Solar Speed Sign on Nuuanu Avenue

Our office was able to send in a request to the Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM) to have a speed sign installed on Nuuanu Avenue. The request came from the Nuuanu-Bates Neighborhood Security Watch after seeing numerous instances of speeding in the area. The sign indicates to drivers the speed in which they are going. The bright speed sign grabs the attention of the driver and is a reminder of the personal responsibility on the road. This serves as a deterrent to speeding drivers, helping to improve road safety for other drives and pedestrians.

Right: A Nuuanu-Bates Neighborhood Watch member standing by the new solar speed sign.



## Helping to Reduce the Feral Pig Population

CM Dos Santos-Tam and staff helped to facilitate a meeting between the Pacific Heights Community Association and the Pig Hunters Association of Oahu. We are interested to hear from community members from throughout the district about feral pig problem areas, and also ask for community members' recommendations, feedback, or ideas for how to best manage the feral pigs that come into residential communities. To learn more about the Pig Hunters Association visit: [phaoahu.com](http://phaoahu.com).



Above: Residents of Pacific Heights and the Pig Hunters Association of Oahu discuss how to reduce the feral pig population.

## Medical Respite Kauhale Project by Project Vision



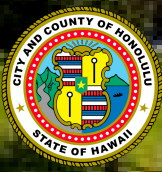
On June 28, CM Dos Santos-Tam and staff had the opportunity to visit the newly constructed medical respite units named, Kauhale Village. Brought forth by Governor Josh Green, the units are located steps away from the State Capitol, his home, the State Departments of Health and Education, and is across the street from The Queen's Medical Center. The location was due to the level of need in the immediate area and the assistance the hospital could provide in a medical emergency event. The ten unit village



was constructed by [HomeAid Hawaii](http://HomeAidHawaii) in the mauka-most section of the Department of Health parking lot. It is completely fenced and provides 24-hour private security. A separate hygiene trailer is being provided by the nonprofit [Project Vision Hawaii](http://ProjectVisionHawaii) (PVH), which will provide round-the-clock staffing at the Kauhale for intake, supervision and care coordination. PVH will also provide registered nurses who will make daily rounds checking in with each client.

Above: The housing units and hygiene trailer are available for housed and unhoused neighbors in the community that need a hot shower, to use the restroom, or a stay particularly for medical fragile people.





# CONSTITUENT UPDATES

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## Cultural Orientation with Honolulu Fire Department Trainees



Above: CM Dos Santos-Tam with Councilmembers Val Okimoto and Matt Weyer attended the Fire Fighter Recruit orientation with the 11 trainees who will soon become qualified Honolulu Fire Fighters.

CM Dos Santos-Tam and Councilmembers Okimoto and Weyer were invited to visit the Royal Mausoleum, also known as Mauna 'Ala, in Nu'uau Valley. Mauna 'Ala has a rich history and tradition with the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD), as the Department was founded by King Kamehameha III in 1850. The mausoleum is especially significant because members of the Kamehameha and Kalākaua Dynasties are buried on the grounds. Later, during King Kalākaua's reign he became a volunteer fire fighter. On July 11th the City's latest Fire Fighter Recruit class honored and paid respects to the islands' founding fathers prior to graduation. The 116th Recruit Class will graduate on July 20th. To find out more about the Honolulu Fire Department or learning fire safety tips visit: [fire.honolulu.gov](http://fire.honolulu.gov).

## Funding Secured for Pedestrian Safety Improvements

CM Dos Santos-Tam is committed to improving pedestrian safety, and was able to secure millions of dollars to help with pedestrian safety in District 6. These funds total \$2,015,000 in sidewalk repair, expansion, and the installation of pedestrian beacons and crosswalks, and include monies for: a raised crosswalk near Kalihi Waena Elementary School, pedestrian beacons around Kawānanakoa Middle School, crosswalks at Pōhaku St. and N. School St, a crosswalk in front of the Liliha L&L, and installation of sidewalks along Judd St. and N. School St. The funds also will pay for speed signs at Prospect and Alapai Street, a dangerous 5-way intersection. Also included were streetscape improvements to Kanoa St. and for a speed trailer for HPD Patrol in District 1.

## University of Hawaii at Manoa Housing Visit



Above: CM Dos Santos-Tam with House Representatives Troy Hashimoto, Lisa Marten, Richard Onishi, Jackson Sayama, Greggor Ilagan, Micah Aiu, and Senator Stanley Chang.

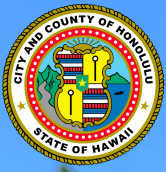
CM Dos Santos-Tam was invited by House Representative Troy Hashimoto to participate in a site visit to UH Mānoa. The group of legislators toured numerous dorms and redevelopment sites. The university plans on renovating existing dorms and also creating new dorms. The group toured the new RISE dorm, the redevelopment site passed by the Housing Committee under resolution HCR178, the vacant dorms at Hale Noelani, and the former NOAA site across Frear Hall.

## Squatter Home at 1612 Maliu Street Demolished

Our office is pleased to report that the squatter home at 1612 Maliu St, near DeCorte Park in Kalihi Valley, has been demolished. The home received seven notices of violation for various building and housing code violations over the past two decades as it fell further into disrepair. Homeless individuals and others would often loiter and create trash and disruption for neighbors in the area. This was a cooperative effort between our office, Senator Kim, Rep. John Mizuno, and Dept. of Planning and Permitting (DPP), and we are grateful for their support in this endeavor.







# DISTRICT PROJECTS

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## New Tax Credits Aim to Assist Homeowners

On July 19, Mayor Blangiardi signed two measures into law aimed to provide residents with tax relief:

**Bill 37(22)** provides a real property tax credit for homeowners whose property tax exceeds 3% of their income.

To qualify for the tax credit, the following must apply:

- the total household income does not exceed \$80,000;
- no qualified titleholder owns any other real property during the applicable tax year;
- the amount of property tax after applying the credit is not less than the minimum tax amount required, \$300.

**Bill 40 (22)** which is the second measure the Mayor signed, increases the exemption amount from \$100,000 to 120,000 for homeowners, and \$140,000 to \$160,000 for senior citizens. The qualifications for the exemption rate is the following:

- applicant owns and occupies the property as their primary residence;
- registered to vote in the city of Honolulu;
- file income tax returns as a resident of the state of Hawai'i;
- resides in the city and plan to stay in their home for more than 270 days in a year.

To file for a home exemption, click here!



## Qinhuangdao Sister City Visit

On July 6th CM Dos Santos-Tam and Councilmember Calvin Say welcomed a delegation from Qinhuangdao to the Honolulu Hale. Since 2010 Honolulu has been a Sister City with Qinhuangdao, located at the northeastern part of China. The longstanding relationship between China and Hawai'i continues today through cultural exchanges, student study programs, and more. The coastal city of Qinhuangdao was named after the first emperor of Qin. It's know for its beautiful beaches and unique architecture. Many people come from all over the world to visit the city as it is the eastern end of the Great Wall. As a result, like Hawai'i, Qinhuangdao has a strong tourism industry.



Above: CM Dos Santos-Tam with the members of the Qinhuangdao delegation.

## Interview with Chinatown Artist Sergio Garzon



Above: CM Dos Santos-Tam with Sergio Garzon and Rep Daniel Holt

A well known artist in the Downtown-Chinatown is Sergio Garzon, who was originally born in Columbia, but has lived and worked in Honolulu for the past 13 years. In District 6, Sergio's artwork can be seen at Fort Street Mall, A'ala Park, Kalihi Uka Elementary, and on Kalihi Street. Our summer intern, Nicole Ines, was able to interview Sergio to share some background on him and his work:

**Q:** How do you choose your mural locations?

**A:** Sergio believes that different spaces have their own needs. At Kalihi Uka Elementary, Sergio's mural incorporates color, patterns, and nature so that students can make connections from what they learn in the classroom to what they see outside the classroom. In addition to being functional, students can build an infrastructure of things that spark their brain and change their attitude about going to a class to learn.

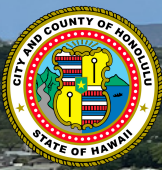
**Q:** What is the importance of art?

**A:** Sergio states that there is a need for art and beautification. Behind visualization and color, there is power and dignity that creates a contagious feeling of hope. He adds that as people pass by art, they briefly abandon their negative thoughts to bring their attention to what is in front of them. However, to others, they experience a feeling that tells them not to give up on the community.



At left: Sergio Garzon's street artwork in Downtown-Chinatown along Fort Street Mall.





# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## The People's Open Market Program Makes Fresh Food Affordable

The People's Open Market (POM) is a multi-cultural market that has 25 sites across Oahu. Each market participating in the POM program is intended to support the economy of the local market and provide residents with diverse and fresh foods at a low cost. The products sold at the market are usually priced 35% below retail. In/around District 6 there are four market sites: **Kaumuali'i Street** (EBT Token Program); 700 Kalihi Street; Saturdays from 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. **Kalihi Valley District Park**; 1911 Kamehameha Highway IV Road; Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. **Makiki District Park**; 1527 Keeaumoku Street; Mondays from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. **Honolulu Hale City Hall** 650 South King Street; between Mission Memorial and the Fasi Municipal Building; Mondays from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

## Honoring Pauahi Kūpuna Hale

On July 26, the Retirement Housing Foundation (RHF) celebrated the re-dedication and \$8.6 million renovation of Pauahi Kūpuna Hale, an affordable community for low-income seniors. The RHF is one of the largest providers in the nation of affordable housing and services for older adults, working families and persons with disabilities. RHF has been providing affordable housing to older residents in Hawaii for more than 35 years and has committed to providing affordable housing for those living at Pauahi Kūpuna Hale for the next 56 years. Pauahi Kūpuna Hale is located on Pauahi St, right in the heart of Chinatown, very close to bus routes, grocery stores, parks, and more.



## Successful Dole Community Park Anniversary Cleanup



Last month, many hard working volunteers came to participate in the cleanup resulting in the removal of dozens of bags full of trash. The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) provided gloves, trash bags and other supplies, and volunteers helped to clean, paint, rake leaves, and more. The Rotary Club of Downtown Honolulu was very instrumental in turning out volunteers, showing their motto: "service above self".

Together working with community groups, passionate individuals and City departments showed that a lot of positive change can happen in a short time. Our office still has a few summer cleanups left. To learn more about what CM Dos Santos-Tam is doing check out our social media pages!



*Above and at right: CM Dos Santos-Tam with numerous volunteers; providing a brief history of the park.*

## Upcoming Downtown-Chinatown Kamali'i Mini Park Cleanup

The Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii is hosting a cleanup of Chinatown. The event is involving a multi-agency cleanup with Departments of Environmental Services (ENV), Facility Maintenance (DFM), the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), and the Mayor's Office of Culture and the Arts (MOCA). Join the cleanup on Saturday, August 26, 2023 from 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Check in and supplies pick-up between 9 a.m.-11 a.m. at South King Street (The Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii Office.) Sign up for the event [HERE!](#)

To view the flier for the event, [click here!](#)



Mark your calendars for future park clean ups organized by CM Dos Santos-Tam's office:

**Kamali'i Mini Park: August 26**

**Kauluwela Park: September 16**

**Peter Buck Park: November 5**