



# DISTRICT 6 UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2023  
honoluluycitycouncil.org

COUNCILMEMBER TYLER DOS SANTOS-TAM  
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## Aloha Neighbors!

I am honored to have the opportunity to represent District 6 at the Honolulu City Council. Together, we will make our community safer and more equitable. Your ideas and input help me to serve our community better. 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 assist you! *- Tyler*

## Neighborhood Security Watch Programs Growing Across the District

Our office has been working to bring the community together while making it safer for all. The main component to this work has been the formation of Neighborhood Security Watch Programs (NSW). The Neighborhood Security Watch was by the Honolulu Police Department in 1980. At the time, it was known as the Good Neighbor program and Block Watch program. Since then, it has evolved into hundreds of "watches" across Oahu. Our area is covered by HPD District 1 (Downtown/Chinatown) and HPD District 5 (Kalihi/Liliha/Ālewa/Kamehameha Hts/Nu'uuanu). For more information or to join a NSW, scan the QR code to the right.

View Google Form here



*You're invited to a Downtown NSW Kickoff Meeting at the Downtown Art Center (1041 Nuuanu Ave, 2nd Floor, above the Satellite City Hall), Wednesday, November 22, 2023, 6:00 p.m. -7:30 p.m.*

## Newly Formed DeCorte Park Neighborhood Security Watch Underway

On October 13, residents formed a Neighborhood Security Watch (NSW) around DeCorte Park in the Kalihi area, with support from the offices of CM Dos Santos-Tam, Rep. Mizuno, and Sen. Kim. The first walk was well-attended by passionate community members that have lived in the area for many years. Each person has a vested interest in the wellbeing of the area and the park. Recently, the park has been the site of many crimes and has been the site of numerous homeless encampments. Residents started to limit their time at the park. Now, members can walk the area increasing public safety awareness and community participation in their neighborhoods.



Above: Cleared and cleaned basketball courts at DeCorte Park.



Above: Members of the newly formed NSW.

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# BILLS & LEGISLATION

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

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## Community Meeting on November 14 on Game Room Crackdown Bills

CM Dos Santos-Tam introduced legislation that will help reduce the number of illegal game rooms in District 6 and around the island. CM Dos Santos-Tam partnered with Westside Councilmember Andria Tupola, whose district is also affected by illegal game rooms, for this legislative package. A community meeting will take place on **Tuesday, November 14, 2023** from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. The location has yet to be determined. For any questions contact our office, or your area Neighborhood Board.

### Summary of Anti-Game Room Legislation:

- **Bill 57** Relating to Game Rooms, would give DPP and Corporation Counsel greater ability to go after landlords of properties used for gambling establishments that “promote such unsafe conditions” and “threaten the health, safety, and welfare of the public by creating unsafe public nuisances.” It would allow DPP to impose \$1,000 in fines per day, and up to \$150,000 in total on landlords. It also would allow the Corporation Counsel to take legal action on any landlord allowing game rooms on their property.
- **Bill 58** Relating to Authorized Personnel, would allow HPD officers, if designated by DPP, to impose penalties for building code, fire code and land use ordinance violations. In addition, it would allow demolition of a building or structure that is “erected, constructed, enlarged, altered, improved, or converted without the necessary permit.”
- **Resolution 23-228** urges City agencies designated to enforce the City’s building code, fire code, and land use ordinance to work with the Honolulu Police Department in the gathering of evidence and serving of notices of violation for building code, fire code, and land use ordinance violations for properties on which illegal game rooms are situated.



Above: CM Dos Santos-Tam speaking to reporters in front of Kalihi Uka Elementary School at the recent press conference.



## Bill on Monster Home False Statements Moves Ahead

CM Dos Santos-Tam introduced Bill 44 (23) earlier this year to deter people from making or inciting the making of a false statement to a city official, with an eye toward targeting habitual monster home developers who falsify plans or building permit applications. The bill creates criteria for someone to be labeled as having a “history of making false statements,” and in November, members will be deciding on the penalties for people who habitually make false statements. These penalties may include higher fines, demolition, or a prohibition on submitting new building permit applications for a certain amount of time. My office is reaching out to the relevant City departments on amendments that may be made. We invite community members to provide their input on what penalties would be appropriate.

## Makiki Neighborhood Board Votes to Support 5-Way Stop Proposal

On Thursday, September 21, the Makiki Neighborhood Board meet to discuss the proposed 5-Way Stop at the intersection of Prospect/‘Iolani/Alapa’i to address speeding, limited line-of-sight issues, and overall hazards for pedestrians. The Board passed a resolution that expressed support for a 5-way stop at the intersection with a request for further study of other alternatives such as a partial “round-about” in the future to ensure pedestrian and driver safety. CM Dos Santos-Tam successfully added funding in the 2023-2024 City Budget to erect an interactive speed monitoring sign near the intersection as well to monitor driver speed on the ‘Iolani Ave hill. CM Dos Santos-Tam will continue to work with DTS to help resolve this issue.





# IN THE COMMUNITY

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## Micronesian Wayfinders Club at HCC Recognized for Service



The Micronesian Wayfinders Club is a student led organization at Honolulu Community College that was established in September 2022. The mission of the Micronesian Wayfinders Club is to unify, empower, and support Micronesians on campus through community building, culturally relevant learning experiences, strengthening self-identity, and creating a sense of place and belonging. The emergence of the club began because of the significant challenges Micronesians face in the community, such as discrimination, negative stereotypes, and systemic inequality. The club has been very active in doing community service work, and the Honolulu City Council was pleased to recognize them for their positive impact throughout the island.

CM Dos Santos-Tam meeting members of the HCC Wayfinders Club. The club has brought together Micronesian students at HCC from all of the major island groups in this diverse Pacific Island region.



## “WE Are Kalihi” Walk Inspires Pride, Community Building for Kalihi



The WE are Kalihi unity walk and celebration took place last month. Hundreds gathered to walk together from different parts of Kalihi to Kaewai Elementary School where families and students were treated to give-aways, received resources from various community youth programs, and were able to participate in arts/crafts and other fun games.

Amid the recent uptick in crime in Kalihi, area residents and teachers want to support kids, encourage access to education and implement crime prevention programs into the schools. Partners of the event included ‘Parents And Children Together’ as well as the ‘Weed and Seed Program’. Both work to prevent crime and provide area youth with productive, safe, and fun opportunities.



Above: Community members, students, advocates and social service resources at the event.

## 2023 Honolulu-South Korea Sister City Goodwill Mission Visit



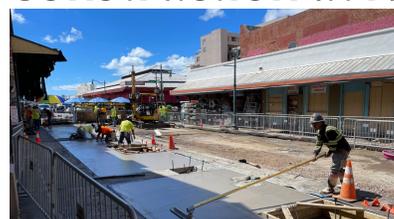
Honolulu City Councilmembers with Incheon City Council Chairman Shick Heo.

CM Dos Santos-Tam visited Honolulu’s Sister Cities in Korea - Incheon and Seoul - with Councilmembers Waters, Cordero, Weyer, and Okimoto in October. The visit was held to commemorate the 120th anniversary of Korean immigration to Hawai’i, and the 50th and 10th anniversary of our sister city relationships with Seoul and Incheon, respectively. The delegation had a series of productive meetings, including with Korean tourism officials to promote Hawai’i tourism, various entrepreneurs considering establishing businesses on Oahu, and with educational institutions such as the Univ. of Utah Asia Campus. At the urging of CMs Dos Santos-Tam and Cordero, Univ. of Utah Asia Campus officials recently visited Farrington HS to conduct a college outreach session.



Honolulu City Councilmembers with Seoul Metropolitan Council Chairman Kim Hyeonki.

## Construction at Kekaulike Mall in Chinatown on Track



Above: Laying the cement for the future walkway of the Mall.

Mayor Rick Blangiardi, CM Dos Santos-Tam’s staff, and other Council offices toured the progress of the Kekaulike Mall construction. The renovations are expected to be completed in about six weeks. Many improvements to the mall have been made which include, new lighting, sewer lines, and planted trees. This revitalization will help improve Chinatown, welcome people in benefiting, local vendors, residents, and tourists.



# CONSTITUENT UPDATES

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## Recognizing the Gay Men’s Chorus of Honolulu at Kapolei Hale



At the October City Council meeting at the Kapolei Hale, CM Dos Santos-Tam gave an Honorary Certificate to the Gay Men’s Chorus of Honolulu (GMCofH). The group was founded in September of 2012 as the first out gay men’s chorus on O’ahu. An important goal of the GMCofH is to foster an appreciation of male choral music by entertaining public performances and singing a wide variety of music in many styles. The chorus seeks to engage all parts of our diverse community. The GMCofH welcomes singers from various musical backgrounds. For more information or inquiries into membership visit: <https://www.gmcofh.org/>

CM Dos Santos-Tam and members from the GMCofH; President, Ralph Whitaker III, Jerry Denton, Allan Jim, Alan Bolosan Campo, Vern Lentz, Daniel Takushi, Quinn Mazepa, and Michael Kwak.

## 31st Annual White Cane Walk with Ho’opono Services for the Blind and Others



Above: CM Dos Santos-Tam speaking and walking with blind community member Ann and her guide dog Daisy.

CM Dos Santos-Tam was invited to attend the 31st Annual White Cane Walk by Ho’opono Services for the Blind, a section of the State of Hawaii Department of Human Services (DHS) Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services for the Blind. The department that provides comprehensive and specialized services that meet the varied needs of consumers across the State who are blind, both deaf and blind, or visually impaired. Services are provided totally free of charge. The goal of Ho’opono Services is to enable visually impaired adults to attain maximum vocational and functional independence. Their message to everyone is ‘Blindness is not a barrier to success’.



Above: CM Dos Santos-Tam with HPD Chief Logan and other organizers.

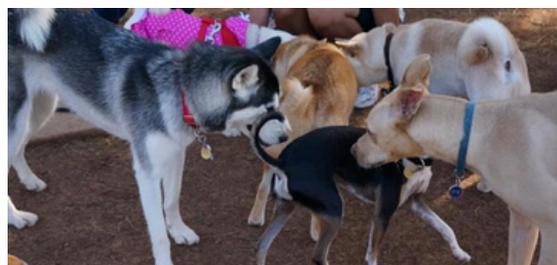
## Fighting to End Domestic Violence During Awareness Month

On October 20, CM Dos Santos-Tam was joined by Councilmembers Say and Waters for a sign waving event, in front of the Hawaii State Capitol. The event was organized by the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (HSCADV), which is a nonprofit organization that provide services, resources, advocacy, education, and action. This is through advancing the safety and healing of victims, survivors and their families. The HSCADV fosters partnerships, increasing awareness of domestic violence, develops the capacity of our member programs and community partners to address the needs of survivors and their families, and advocating for social justice and change. The organization has 29 domestic violence programs and shelters statewide representing 18 organizations on all major Hawaiian islands. For more information, call (808) 832-9316 or email [info@hscadv.org](mailto:info@hscadv.org).



CMs Dos Santos-Tam, Waters, and Say at the Domestic Violence sign waving event.

## Seeking Recommendations for Additional Dog Park Locations



Above: Numerous dogs socializing at an off-leash park.

CM Dos Santos-Tam is passionate about increasing the number of dog parks in District 6. In numerous parts of the district it is heavily populated with residents residing in apartments and condominiums. Because of this ample open spaces for dogs to run and play safety is important for keeping our dogs are healthy and active. Our office is looking at pre-existing parks that could have a section for a dog park, for on or off leash play. For any suggestion the community may have, please contact my office with recommendations.



# DISTRICT PROJECTS

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## Demolition of a Dilapidated Home on 1602-C Haupu Place

Our office was informed by the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) that the home at 1602-C Haupu Place is set to be demolished after more than a decade in disrepair. According to the Department, the property is still undergoing the removal of debris from the site. After the discarded materials outside of the property is removed the demolition of the structure can get underway. Our office will engage with the Department in order to monitor the progress of finally improving the property.



*Above: The derelict home on Haupu Street.*

## Departments Undertake DeCorte Park Rule Enforcement Activity



*Above: HPD enforcing the park clearing.*

Due to community concerns, my office has been proactively trying to ensure that DeCorte Park is routinely maintained. We've seen on numerous occasions the establishment of houseless encampments that have resulted in piles of trash being left sprawled around the park creating an unsafe environment for those who frequent the park such as families, kids playing or people walking their dog.



*Above: ENV helping to remove rubbish.*

If there are additional concerns or questions about park maintenance or enforcement, or for information on joining the recently formed DeCorte Neighborhood Security Watch, please contact my office.

## Chinatown Crew Cleans Out Smith-Beretania Park



*A group of City workers from various departments remove trash from the park and surrounding street.*

On October 10 an interdepartmental effort was made to clean and clear out Smith- Beretania Park. The Departments of Environmental Services (ENV) , Parks and Recreation (DPR), and the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) came in the early morning hour to help the park that routinely has debris and trash on the property. The departments gathered the unwanted materials and is hauled off by a huge truck to be disposed of. The result is a cleaner and more inviting park, free of litter and hazardous materials.

## Join Us For A Cleanup at Peter Buck Mini Park on November 12



Peter Buck Mini Park, which is near Bishop Museum on Houghtailing St, will turn 50 years old next month. We invite all residents and neighbors to join CM Dos Santos-Tam on Sunday, November 12 at 9:00AM. To celebrate and to show the park some well-deserved care, CM Dos Santos-Tam's office is organizing a park clean up involving litter pick up, graffiti removal, and scrubbing of the play courts. Since it's a birthday party, we'll have cupcakes and refreshments as well! To sign up for the park clean up, [click here](#) or scan the QR code on the right.

*Scan here to sign up for the clean up!*





# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## Free Pop-Up Legal Advice Clinic in Kalihi on November 18

If you or someone you know has a legal issue or needs legal advice, on November 18, volunteer attorneys from Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii will be available to meet with the public individually to provide legal advice for the following types of cases: **1) Family Law:** Divorce, Child Custody, Child Support, Guardianships, and Adoptions. **2) Estate Planning:** Simple Wills, Power of Attorney, and Health Care Directives. **3) District Court:** Landlord-Tenant, Small claims, Consumer Debt Collections. **4) Bankruptcy:** Chapter 7 only. The clinic will be held at Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center; 1640 Lanakila Avenue from 1:00 p.m.-4:00p.m. This service is **FREE** to all low and moderate income individuals. **Call by November 3, 2023 to qualify and reserve a spot:** (808) 5280 7046. For interpreter Assistance: Indicate which language and Volunteer Legal Services will arrange for an interpreter to be present for the appointment. Walk-ins will be accepted, but there is no guarantee that the individual will be seen by an attorney.

## House Of Representatives Accepting Applications For the 2024 Legislative Session



The House of Representatives is currently welcoming applicants for various session staff roles during the 2024 Legislative Session. These positions include legislative aide, committee clerk, program budget analyst, data-entry clerk, receptionist, service aide, support staff for remote hearings, legislative attorney, and more! Session staff positions are temporary and typically span from December until May, with salary ranges dependent on the specific position and relevant experience. The hiring process will take place in November and December. Comprehensive benefits such as health, prescription drug, dental, and vision insurance are available. It's important to note that prior legislative experience is not required, and we actively

encourage individuals from diverse backgrounds to submit their applications. If you or someone you know might want to explore the legislative process and gain valuable experience as a session staff member visit: <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hjobs.aspx>. Interested applicants may submit their resume with a cover letter indicating the desired position to: [resume@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:resume@capitol.hawaii.gov).

## *Wildfire Emergency Preparedness Resources:*

### Virtual Presentation on Wildfire Preparation November 2

Join the Hawaiian Center at Honolulu Community College (HCC) for a virtual presentation to learn valuable information to help prepare for wildfire emergencies. **Thursday, November 2, 2023; 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. via Zoom.** Honolulu Community College Fire and Environmental Emergency Response Department, Professor Richard Scott Rhode for a special presentation on Hawaii wildfires and how to be prepared in the event of an emergency. Registration is required: <https://go.hawaii.edu/yUz>.

## Hawai'i Firewise Program Helps Communities Prepare for Wildfires

The Hawai'i Wildfire Management Organization (HWMO) serves as a hub of wildfire prevention, mitigation, and planning activities in the Hawaii-Pacific region through proactive, collaborative, and forward-thinking projects. The Firewise program that helps communities adapt to living with with wildfire and encourages neighbors to work together and take action now to prevent losses. They encourage community members to join the statewide movement to reduce your risk of catastrophe if a fire starts up near you. To contact visit <https://www.hawaiiwildfire.org/contact>.



*A nationally-recognized Firewise Community group.*