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JULY 2023 DISTRICT 4 NEWSLETTER CONTENTS

- P1** - ALOHA & CONTACT US
- P2** - JUNE D4 RISR REPORT
- P3** - EVENTS, D4 UPDATES, & HOW TO TESTIFY
- P4** - D4 UPDATES (cont.) & CCH PHONE LIST
- P5** - BILL 37 & 40 PRESS RELEASE
- P6** - BILL 37 & 40 PRESS RELEASE (con't)



ALOHA NEIGHBORS!

On July 4th, it is important to recognize & celebrate the significance of this day in American history. It was on this day in 1776 that the Declaration of Independence was signed, marking the birth of a new nation founded on the principles of liberty & equality. However, it is also important to acknowledge the significance of another July holiday, Lā Ho'ihō'i Ea, or Sovereignty Restoration Day in Hawai'i on July 31st. This day commemorates the restoration of Hawaiian sovereignty in 1843 after it was temporarily seized by British forces. It serves as a reminder of the ongoing struggle for indigenous rights & the importance of acknowledging & respecting the histories & cultures of all peoples. As we celebrate the freedoms & independence of our country on July 4th, let us also take the time to honor & uplift the voices of indigenous peoples & recognize the continued fight for sovereignty & justice.

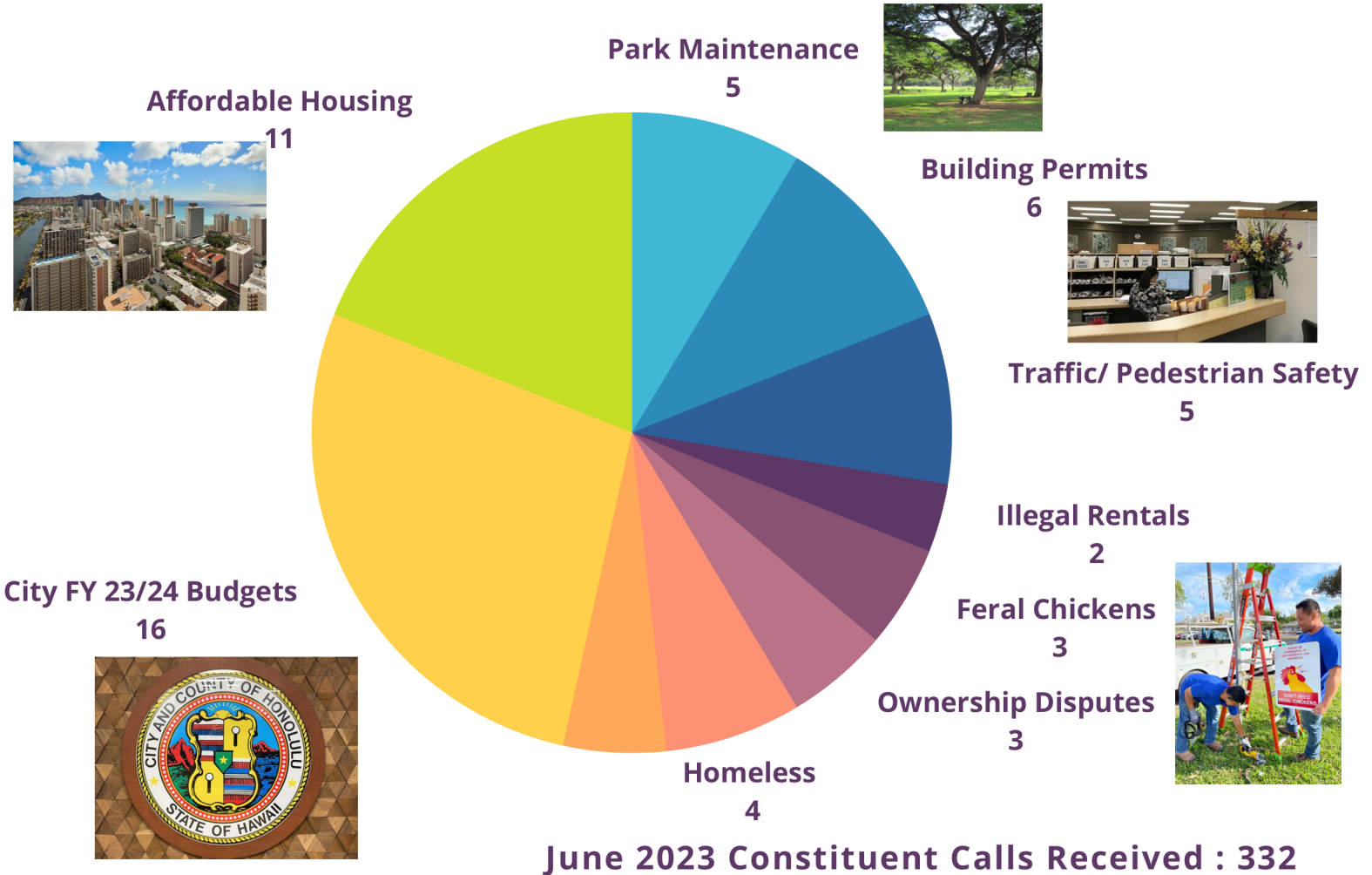
The City Council passed the annual budget on June 7th. Mayor Blangiardi signed the \$4.75B Capital & Operating budgets later in the month, which included a \$350 tax credit for homeowner occupants as well as a focus on affordable housing, public infrastructure, community revitalization, & public safety. Funding was also included for an affordable & workforce housing plan, I& acquisitions, & affordable housing & homeless service facilities. Public safety was also a focus, with funding going to community policing teams, speed trailers, & programs like Community Outreach Courts, Weed & Seed, & Waikīkī Safe & Sound. Funding for contracts relating to controlling feral chickens & other invasive birds was also included. For more information on the budget, please visit <https://www.honolulucitycouncil.org/budget>, where you can see detailed information for each Department.

Please do not hesitate to contact my staff or office with questions or concerns on city-related issues. We remain steadfast in representing & working for you.

Mahalo,

JUNE 2023 DISTRICT 4

CONSTITUENT REQUESTS FOR SERVICE



EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

**ATTENTION PARK USERS: DPR CONSIDERING NEW RULES REGARDING PARK COURTS.
PLEASE BE AWARE OF DRASTIC CHANGES. INPUT REQUESTED IMMEDIATELY**

Survey open until July 21, 2023 at 4:30 pm (HST)

As part of the continuing effort to gather the community's input regarding existing conditions at City parks, the Honolulu Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) is conducting a final survey to gauge public sentiment for proposed rules governing City park outdoor courts. This includes basketball, pickleball, tennis, and volleyball courts. A draft copy of the proposed rules may be accessed by following this link: bit.ly/DraftCourtRules.

The survey should only take a few minutes to complete and can be accessed online by visiting bit.ly/OutdoorCourtSurvey. The survey is open until 4:30 p.m. (HST) on Friday, July 21, 2023. Additional comments on the draft rules can be sent to DPRPMRSMail@honolulu.gov and must be received before the closing of the survey mentioned above. Upon completing this final public survey, DPR will review the public comments before beginning the final stage of approval through the DPR formal rule promulgation process. This includes posting the final draft publicly and a public hearing for final public input. That hearing is expected this year.

The proposed rules aim to balance casual recreation use of the courts with the addition of tennis and pickleball lessons and other permitted activities. The hope is to have consistent, fair regulations on agreeable terms for all court users to encourage compliance and reduce the need for enforcement. We want to keep our facilities as open to recreational use as possible while allowing instructors to provide higher-quality lessons to our communities. Lists of the City-operated pickleball and tennis courts are available online at bit.ly/OahuPickleball and bit.ly/OahuTennis, respectively. DPR's online registration website, pros.hnl.info, lists free-play opportunities at the City's 25 gymnasiums, including indoor pickleball play. The City and County of Honolulu appreciate the patience and understanding of the various park user groups. At the same time, we work to make these rules and additional facility plans as beneficial to the community as possible.

EVENTS & HAPPENINGS (CON'T)



RENT & UTILITY HELP
NEW APPLICANTS ONLY

JULY 10, 9 AM-4 PM

Ala Wai Golf Clubhouse
404 Kapahulu Ave.

To sign up or learn more, contact:
(808) 940-5209; or
(808) 940-6993; or
(808) 940-2838; or
(808) 728-3508; or
(808) 741-6966



For more information visit:

<https://www.revitalizeoahu.org/renthelp>

Kuli'ou'ou-Kalani Iki Neighborhood Board No. 02

Will recess its regular meeting in July 2023

Waikīkī Neighborhood Board No. 09

July 11, 6:00 pm, Waikīkī Community Center

JULY'S FULL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

July 12, 10:00 am
Honolulu Hale, Council Chamber

Diamond Head/Kapahulu/St. Louis Neighborhood Board No. 05

July 13, 6:00 pm, Ala Wai Golf Course Clubhouse

Kaimukī Neighborhood Board No. 04

July 19, 6:30 pm, Kaimukī Public Library

Wai'alae-Kāhala Neighborhood Board No. 03

July 20, 7:00 pm, Ala Wai Golf Course Clubhouse

Hawai'i Kai Neighborhood Board No. 01

July 25, 7:00 pm, Haha'ione Elementary School Cafeteria

How to Register to Speak or Submit Testimony for Council & Committee Meetings

I encourage you to express your views & concerns with regard to any legislation considered by the Honolulu City Council. With work & family obligations, not all of us have the opportunity or time to attend Council or Committee meetings in person. However, you have the option & opportunity to submit testimony via mail, fax, email, or online. To obtain more information about the Honolulu City Council & Council Committee meetings as well as how to submit testimony, log on to <https://hnlidoc.hawaii.gov/hnlidoc/testimony>.

DISTRICT 4 UPDATES

Chicken Noise Complaints



In an effort to eradicate feral chickens & roosters from City & County of Honolulu properties, the Department of Customer Services has recently established a Feral Chicken Management Master Agreement with Sandwich Isles Pest Solutions. Feral chickens have been a source of early morning noise, thus causing a disturbance for neighboring communities. Moreover, roaming feral chicken waste can pose a health risk. As a resident, we ask that you please refrain from feeding feral chickens so that we can reduce their population. Sandwich Isles Pest Solutions have been removing feral chickens from several areas, including Koko Head District Park, the Honolulu Zoo, & Mau'umae Park. If you have any complaints about feral chickens on City & County of Honolulu properties, please send them to complaints@honolulu.gov or call (808) 768-4381. For complaints about chickens on private property, you may call the Honolulu Police Department 911 non-emergency if there is excessive noise or more than two chickens per household.

Kalākaua Ave Repaving & Curb Repair



Along Kalākaua Ave, the reconstruction of asphalt roads, concrete curbs, adjustment of manhole covers & utility boxes to surrounding grade levels, & the installation of vehicle detector loops began on June 15, 2023. The construction will last approximately 9 months. The repairs will be done along Kalākaua Ave from Olohana St to Monsarrat Ave; & Kalākaua Ave from the Dillingham Fountain to Poni Moi Rd. Contractors will work on the project in sections to facilitate the smooth movement of traffic & people. The contractor will also place "NO PARKING" signs along the sides of roadways one week before work starts to help notify the public of upcoming construction work areas. We kindly ask drivers to observe the dates & times of these notices, as vehicles parked on posted streets will be towed at the owner's expense. Although we would all like this project to be finished as soon as possible, please note that it is a construction site with many dangerous elements, such as new hot asphalt. To protect our community members, please be patient & proceed with caution when in the area. The Department of Design & Construction appreciates your understanding while we work to improve the roads in our community.

DISTRICT IV UPDATES (CON'T)

City & County of Honolulu Skyline Gr& Opening June 30th



The rail transit system officially began operation at 2:00 pm on June 30, 2023. The transit system was also named Skyline because of the beautiful scenery that can be viewed when riding. The first phase stretches 11 miles between the Kualaka`i Station in East Kapolei & the Hālawā Station near Aloha Stadium. All rides on the new rail system were free for the opening weekend. Adult HOLO cards can be purchased at participating retailers, rail station kiosks, or TheBus Pass Office. Reduced fare programs are available at select locations for seniors, youth, Handi-Van riders, & those with low income, disabilities, or U.S. Medicare. The transit system is a big step towards the city's commitment to its Climate Action Plan.

Hanauma Bay - No Reservation is Required for Kama`āina



Starting on Saturday, July 1, 2023, all Hawai'i residents (kama`āina) will be allowed into Hanauma Bay without making an online reservation. All they need to do is show a valid Hawai'i driver's license or school ID. The bay is open Wednesday through Sunday from 6:45 am until 1:30 pm, closes at 4:00 pm, & the beaches are cleared half an hour before that. Hanauma Bay is closed all day on Mondays & Tuesdays. Nevertheless, all visitors, including residents, must watch the educational & safety video before entering the beach. Also, consider that there are a limited 280 parking stalls at Hanauma Bay, so please be aware of that when visiting. The City encourages residents & visitors to see this historically significant location.

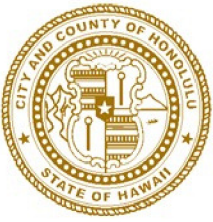
WHO ARE YOU GOING TO CALL?

Abandoned Vehicles	733-2530
Building Permit	768-8220
Building Code Compliance	768-8259
Bus Route/Schedule Info	848-5555
City Council	768-5010
City General Information Hotline	768-4385
Community Policing Team—East Honolulu	723-3354
Community Policing Team—Waikīkī	723-3349
Complaint (City Government)	768-4381
Dead Animal Pickup—City	832-3200
Dead Animal Pickup—State	485-6200
Dept. of Emergency Management	723-8960
Driver Licensing & State ID	768-9100
Illegal Dumping	768-3203
Mayor's Office	768-4141
Motor Vehicle Title & Reg	768-4325
Park Maintenance—East Honolulu	768-8944
Pothole Hotline	768-7777
Refuse Collection—Honolulu	832-5990
Satellite City Hall Services	768-4325
Senior Helpline	768-7700
Stream Maintenance	768-7890
Street Light Repair	768-5300
Street Sign Repair	768-6300
Tree Trimming	971-7151

For concerns about a homeless individual or group the City & County of Honolulu's Crisis Outreach Response & Engagement Program (C.O.R.E.) responds to medical, mental, & social needs of non-violent homeless-related concerns. Email HonoluluCORE@honolulu.gov or call the C.O.R.E. hotline at (808) 768-2673 to ask for assistance.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE COUNCIL CONNECT E-NEWSLETTER

Visit honolulucitycouncil.org to fill out the online sign-up form.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 7, 2023

COUNCIL PASSES TWO MEASURES PROVIDING TAX RELIEF FOR HOMEOWNERS AND KŪPUNA

HONOLULU, HAWAII – In a significant stride toward providing residents with real property tax relief, the Honolulu City Council has passed Bills [37 \(2022\)](#) and [40 \(2022\)](#). Bill 37 increases the threshold income level for the tax credit from \$60,000 to \$80,000. Bill 40 raises the homeowners and kūpuna exemptions by \$20,000 each, raising it to \$120,000 and \$160,000 respectively. The new laws are designed to provide substantial tax relief to homeowners, particularly the most vulnerable.

Council Vice Chair Esther Kiaʻāina, who introduced these measures, said “We are committed to creating a fair and equitable tax structure that eases the burden on homeowners and our most vulnerable residents, while ensuring we have the funds needed to provide essential city services. These measures account for inflation and increased cost of living and represent a key step toward providing meaningful relief for our residents.”

Council Chair Waters echoed these sentiments, and added, “As a Council, we have prioritized real property tax relief to ensure our local people are not priced out of our island home. Additionally, while changing the law is crucial, ensuring that homeowners have the information they need to apply is equally as important. By passing these measures today, the City will be able to include information on these tax relief measures in the annual assessments, so homeowners will be notified well in advance of the September 30 deadline.”

Bill 37 provides a real property tax credit for homeowners whose property tax exceeds 3% of their income. To qualify for the tax credit, the combined income of all titleholders for the property must not exceed \$80,000, and the homeowner must file for the credit by September 30, 2023.

Bill 40 increases the exemption amount from \$100,000 to \$120,000 for homeowners, and \$140,000 to \$160,000 for kūpuna. To qualify for this tax exemption, residents must file for their homeowners exemption by September 30, 2023.

Councilmember Okimoto voiced her support, stating, “These measures aren’t just changes on paper, they are tangible steps toward fairness and relief for our homeowners. We have heard the voices of our constituents, and we recognize the need for real property tax relief. These are much-needed changes that will bring significant relief to many households that call Oʻahu home.”

Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam added to the discussion, “In addition to the tax relief benefits, I believe the bill provided us an opportunity to continue the important work of updating the language of our City Ordinances. In our commitment to inclusivity, we included language amendments that would

acknowledge and respect all marriage structures and guarantee equitable access to benefits for all married couples. It is a small but significant change that affirms our dedication to equity and ensures that the language enshrined in our laws better represents our diverse communities.”

Kia ‘āina represents City Council District 3, which includes ‘Āhuimanu, He ‘eia, Ha ‘ikū, Kāne ‘ohe, Maunawili, Kailua, Olomana, Enchanted Lake and Waimānalo.

Waters represents City Council District 4, which includes Hawai‘i Kai, Kuli‘ou‘ou, Niu Valley, ‘Āina Haina, Wailupe, Wai‘alae Iki, Kalani Valley, Kāhala, Wilhelmina Rise, Kaimukī, Kapahulu, Diamond Head, and Waikīkī.

Dos Santos-Tam represents City Council District 6, which spans from Kaka ‘ako to Kalihi, and includes portions of Kaka ‘ako, Chinatown, Downtown, Punchbowl, Papakōlea, Pauoa Valley, Nu‘uanu, Iwilei, Liliha, ‘Ālewa Heights, Kalihi and Kalihi Valley.

Okimoto represents City Council District 8, which includes portions of ‘Aiea, Waimalu, Newtown, Pearl City, Seaview, Crestview, Waipi‘o Gentry, Koa Ridge, Mililani Town, and Mililani Mauka.

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