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[honolulu.gov/councild4](http://honolulu.gov/councild4)  
[honolulucitycouncil.org](http://honolulucitycouncil.org)

**SEPTEMBER 2023 DISTRICT 4  
NEWSLETTER CONTENTS**

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I want to express my heartfelt sympathy & support to all the people affected by the wildfires in Lahaina. The people of Honolulu are with you. Mayor Richard Bissen & Council Chair Alice Lee have shown incredible leadership & courage throughout this disaster. We are all one 'ohana, & we will get through this together with resilience & strength & more aloha than ever.

On behalf of the Honolulu City Council, your Councilmembers are currently in contact with Mayor Blangiardi's Administration, the Department of Emergency Management, the Department of Facility Maintenance, & the Honolulu Fire Department to address concerns raised regarding how O'ahu's risks are being managed in light of the recent tragic wildfires on Maui & the Big Island.

Throughout September, the time-honored Aloha Festivals take place. This celebration of Hawaiian culture has taken place for 70 years, thanks to the generosity of private donors, community sponsors, merchandise sales, & the Hawai'i Tourism Authority. It is a way to share the Aloha Spirit & the Hawaiian Culture with people from diverse backgrounds & traditions. Don't miss the amazing events, such as the Royal Court Investiture & Opening Ceremony on September 9, where you can see the festival royalty crowned & honored, the 69th Annual Waikīkī Ho'olaule'a on September 23, where thousands of people enjoy live music, food, crafts, & entertainment along Kalākaua Avenue, & the 75th Annual Floral Parade with stunning floats & performers on September 30, which showcases the rich history & diversity of Hawai'i along the scenic route from Ala Moana Park through Kalākaua Avenue to Kapi'olani Park.

Please feel free to reach out to me or my staff anytime with any City related questions or community concerns. We are committed to responding promptly & working tirelessly to represent & support you.

Mahalo,

# AUGUST 2023 DISTRICT 4

## CONSTITUENT REQUESTS FOR SERVICE



**Feral Chickens**  
3



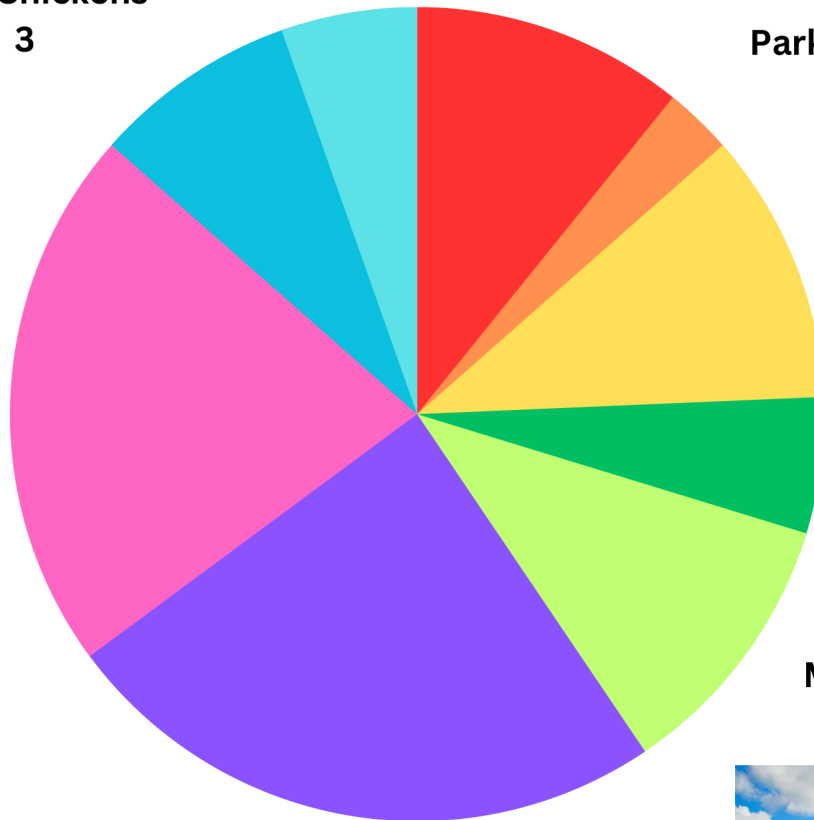
**Encampments** 2  
**Sidewalks** 4



**Parking Signs**  
1



**Overgrowth**  
8



**Emergency Management**  
4

**Speed Mitigation**  
2

**Monster Homes**  
4



**Permits**  
9



**August 2023**  
**Constituent Calls Received : 372**  
**Meetings Attended: 84**



## EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

### SEPTEMBER'S FULL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

September 6, 10:00 am  
Honolulu Hale, Council Chamber

**Kuli'ou'ou-Kalani Iki Neighborhood Board No. 02**  
September 7, 6:30 pm, Ala Wai Golf Course Clubhouse

**Waikīkī Neighborhood Board No. 09**  
September 12, 6:00 pm, Waikīkī Community Center

**Diamond Head/Kapahulu/St. Louis Neighborhood Board No. 05**  
September 14, 6:00 pm, Ala Wai Golf Course Clubhouse

**Kaimukī Neighborhood Board No. 04**  
September 20, 6:30 pm, Kaimukī Public Library

**Wai'alae-Kāhala Neighborhood Board No. 03**  
September 21, 7:00 pm, Ala Wai Golf Course Clubhouse

**Hawai'i Kai Neighborhood Board No. 01**  
September 26, 7:00 pm, Haha'ione Elementary School Cafeteria

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

It's important to share your thoughts on Honolulu City Council's legislation. Attending Council or Committee in-person meetings may not always be possible, but you can submit testimony via mail, fax, email, or online. Visit [hnl.doc.ehawaii.gov/hnl/doc/testimony](http://hnl.doc.ehawaii.gov/hnl/doc/testimony) to learn more.

## DISTRICT 4 UPDATES

### Real Property Tax Credit & Home Exemption Filing Deadline is October 2, 2023

The City & County of Honolulu encourages eligible homeowners to apply for a real property tax credit. This tax credit is designed to provide financial relief to those who qualify & is calculated as the difference between the current year's property tax & three percent of your total gross income. If you meet the eligibility requirements, this option may be worth considering to help reduce your property tax burden.

The eligibility requirements are as follows:

- Homeowner must have a home exemption in effect at the time of application & for the subsequent tax year (**Apply by October 2, 2023**).
- Any of the titleholders do not own any other property anywhere.
- The combined income of all titleholders cannot exceed \$80,000 (Increased from \$60,000 to \$80,000).

Tax credit applications are now available online at [www.honolulu.gov/treasury](http://www.honolulu.gov/treasury) & in person at all Satellite City Halls (Note: Applicants who filed last year were mailed their applications on July 14, 2023). If you qualify for a credit, the credit will be applied to your property tax bill that you will receive in July 2024. For more information or assistance, visit [www.realpropertyhonolulu.com](http://www.realpropertyhonolulu.com), contact the Real Property Tax Relief Office at (808) 768-3205, or e-mail [bfstaxrelief@honolulu.gov](mailto:bfstaxrelief@honolulu.gov).

## DISTRICT 4 UPDATES (con't)

### O'ahu Fire Safety & Preparedness

## HOW TO BECOME WILDFIRE-READY



#### 1 AVOID AN ACCIDENTAL FIRE START

Learn how to be fire-safe with tools, campfires, BBQs, and fireworks. Don't pull over on dry grass.

#### 2 PREPARE YOUR HOME & YARD

Keep your yard lean and green. Clear leaf piles. Mow yard. Trim up trees. Use non-combustible building materials.

#### 3 PREPARE YOUR FAMILY

Coordinate with your family on your protocol during an emergency. Keep important numbers on hand.

#### 4 WORK WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS

Talk with your neighbors and community leaders. Share wildfire preparedness information. Start a Firewise program.

#### 5 STAY INFORMED

Sign up for your local government alerts to ensure you receive timely instructions during an emergency.

In light of the recent wildfires on Maui & Big Island, many community members have raised concerns about fire safety risks on O'ahu. Council Chair Waters introduced [Resolution 23-194](#), supporting Maui's recovery efforts. The Public Safety Committee discussed this resolution & emergency preparedness. Community Wildfire Preparedness & Firewise Hawai'i shared resources at a recent neighborhood board meeting. These resources can be found at [fire.honolulu.gov/fire-and-life-safety/wildland-fire-preparedness/](http://fire.honolulu.gov/fire-and-life-safety/wildland-fire-preparedness/) & [www.hawaiiwildfire.org/home](http://www.hawaiiwildfire.org/home).

### Kaimukī Community Park Gymnasium Renovation Project Begins



The Kaimukī Community Park gymnasium, bandstand, & adjacent lawn have been temporarily closed for renovations since the beginning of September. The focus of the renovation project is to replace the old roof of the gymnasium & improve the interior. Certified Construction, Inc. has been awarded the construction contract for this project, with a budget of over \$775,000. The renovation is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2023. An online map of island-wide outdoor recreational facilities is available at [bit.ly/OahuPlaygrounds](http://bit.ly/OahuPlaygrounds). The map also includes a direct link to the DPR schedule of activities for these recreational facilities. To register, visit [pros.hnl.info](http://pros.hnl.info) & go to the "Parks" section.

## DISTRICT 4 UPDATES (con't)

### Monster Homes



Bill 52 (2023): Relating to Large Dwellings passed first reading at the September 7th full Council meeting & was referred to the Committee on Planning & Zoning. DPP proposed Bill 52 (2023) to solve the growing monster homes issue. The bill recommends increasing fines substantially, with an initial fine of \$25,000 & up to \$10,000 per day for those making false statements to building officials. Bill 52 (2023) is intended to replace Bill 44 (2023): Relating to False Statements, & was reviewed by the Planning Commission as a more feasible & tailored option. Council Chair Waters introduced the bill on August 31, 2023 by request. Please visit [www.honolulu.gov](http://www.honolulu.gov) to review Bill 52 (2023) & submit testimony to make your voice heard.

### Recognizing the Volunteers Preserving & Protecting Wāwāmalu Beach



During August's full Council Honorary Certificate ceremony, the District IV office acknowledged the work of volunteers who are preserving & protecting Wāwāmalu Beach. This beach is part of the Ka Iwi State Scenic Shoreline & is home to various plant & animal species. The Sierra Club of Hawaii's Wāwāmalu Beach Restoration team has played a vital role in this conservation effort, with volunteers like Reese Liggett removing the invasive koa haole plants & stumps every month. Suzan Harada has overseen volunteers in weeding, collecting, & sowing seeds of native Hawaiian plant species. Gayle Matsuda monitors & reports any signs of disturbance, & Tony Querubin has planted & nurtured native plants while removing invasive species. Michael Loftin's organization, 808 Cleanups, has engaged & educated hundreds of participants yearly to create a cleaner & more native Ka Iwi Coast. Elizabeth Reilly, founder & president of Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui, led a community initiative in 2017 to acquire lands near the Ka Iwi Coast for preservation & protection, which has led to Act 235 being established as a pathway for the State of Hawaii to designate the area between Makapu'u & Wāwāmalu Beach as a state park.

## 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 individuals experiencing homelessness or homeless encampments, 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. Please get in touch with C.O.R.E. via email ([HonoluluCORE@honolulu.gov](mailto:HonoluluCORE@honolulu.gov)) or call their hotline at (808) 768-2673 to request for assistance.

### SUBSCRIBE TO THE COUNCIL CONNECT E-NEWSLETTER

Visit [honolulu.gov](http://honolulu.gov) to fill out the online sign-up form.