

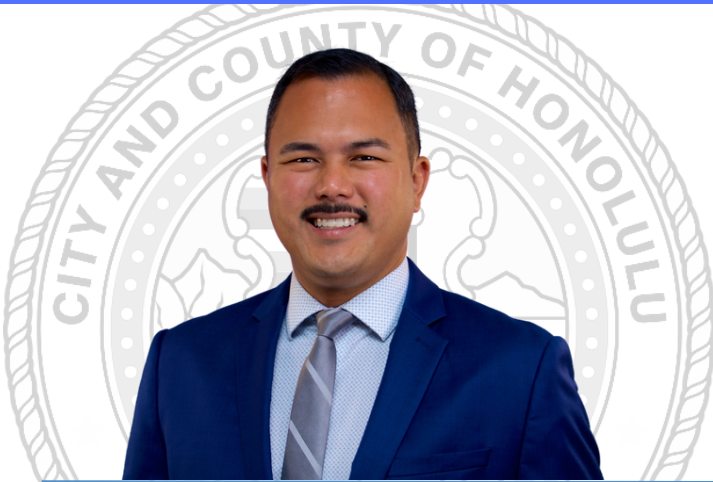
DISTRICT 6 UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2023

honoluluycouncil.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

Kalihi Electeds Listen to KPT Residents and Neighbors

CM Dos Santos-Tam, Senator Donna Mercado Kim, and Representative Sonny Ganaden hosted a town hall session to listen to residents of the Towers at Kuhio Park, formerly known as Kuhio Park Terrace, about a variety of concerns, including the upcoming redevelopment of the site, crime in the area, pedestrian safety, and more.

During the meeting the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), Hawai'i Public Housing Authority (HPHA), Hawai'i Affordable Properties, and Michaels Development were able to speak on the many ongoing concerns residents have about the complex. All parties that attended are committed to helping the residents at KPT particularly as the the redevelopment occurs. "This was a great opportunity to hear from Kalihi residents who care so much about their community," said CM Dos Santos-Tam. "We'll be back to continue to listen and take action on their concerns through a future town hall in a few months."



Above: KPT residents listening and viewing the presentation by Hakim Ouansafi, Executive Director of HPHA.

Recognizing Summer Interns for Council District 6



Over the Summer, our office had the pleasure of working with hardworking interns. Entering into his senior year at Punahou School, Sean Jung assisted CM Dos Santos-Tam with social media, involving filming, producing content, and editing, and also various research projects. Internship programs are a great way for young adults to explore their interests, gain professional development, apply knowledge learned in school to the real world. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about government or would like to get involved in their community, please feel free to contact our Constituent Services Director, Lynn Robinson-Onderko at l.robinson@honolulu.gov.

Left: Sean Jung in the City Council Chamber where Council and Committee meetings are held.

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Scan to access our social media!

Connect with us!

[facebook.com/tylerdossantostam](https://www.facebook.com/tylerdossantostam)

On Instagram @tylerdossantostam





BILLS & LEGISLATION

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Proposed Game Room Legislation to be Introduced This Month



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 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. At the August meeting of the Executive Matters and Legal Affairs committee, which he chairs, the bill was amended to specifically move the language into the "building permit" section of the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu. The bill created criteria for someone to be labeled as having a "history of making false statements," and at the next committee meeting, 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.

View the Hawaii News Now story on Bill 44 here:

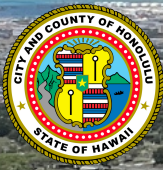


Bill 4: Energy Conservation Legislation Signed Into Law



Mayor Rick Blangiardi signed Bill 4 (23) into law as Ordinance 23-25 that updates and improves the City's Building Energy Conservation Code. Energy codes establish minimum energy performance requirements for new residential and commercial buildings. The codes provide protection as temperatures rise causing potential health heat risks, while delivering energy savings, lower utility bills, and reducing the environmental impacts of O'ahu's building stock. After the state adopted the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code in December 2020, the City had the opportunity to adopt the state's code, with its own local amendments. Local amendments were developed in close coordination with industry experts, such as the American Institute of Architects and the Building Industry Association of Hawai'i, to ensure code requirements match O'ahu's specific market needs and context. The City looks forward to partnering with industry stakeholders to create innovative and sustainable policies.

CM Dos Santos-Tam, CM Weyer, alongside building industry representatives and clean energy advocates watching as Mayor Blangiardi signs Bill 4.



IN THE COMMUNITY

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5-Way Stop Proposal at Prospect Intersection Closer to Fruition

DTS announced their proposal for a five-way stop at the intersection of Prospect/Iolani/Alapa'i to address speeding, limited line-of-sight issues, and hazards for pedestrians. DTS has also explored other options, including the possibility of a "round-about" configuration. We welcome your opinions on these proposals as residents, pedestrians, and drivers in the area. CM Dos Santos-Tam also successfully added funding in the 2023-24 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 is committed to resolving this long-standing safety issue in the community.



New "Higher Fines" Signs Coming Soon to Kapālama ES

By request of concerned community members our office was able to send in a request to the Department of Transportation to install "Higher Fines" signs on Bernice Street and School Street within the Kapālama Elementary School Zone. The signage allows police officers to enforce higher fines at over \$200 on top of the base ticket. The signage will help serve as a deterrent to speeding drivers, helping to improve road safety for other drives and pedestrians. Careless drivers often speed in this area as they try to bypass Likelike Hwy traffic.

Papakōlea Neighbors Come Together for Donation Drive for Maui

Kula no na Po'e Hawai'i - Papakōlea hosted a donation drop-off at Lincoln Elementary on the weekend after the tragic Maui fires to support Hui No Ke Ola Pono, the Native Hawaiian Health Care System on Maui and to support the greater Maui community through the County of Maui and Papa Ola Lokahi. The group collected food, kūpuna and keiki supplies, clothing, shoes, and other goods which were immediately needed on Maui. CM Dos Santos-Tam helped the group set up the donation stations, and encourages community members to continue supporting Maui relief efforts.

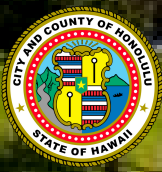


Above: CM Dos Santos-Tam with numerous Papakōlea volunteers.

Foster Botanical Garden Reopened after Months-Long Renovation



Foster Botanical Gardens reopened on Monday August 14. The 14-acre Garden is the oldest of the City's five botanical gardens. The reopening comes after long period of construction to add and upgrade accessibility options throughout the Garden. The project improved the Garden's entrance, bathrooms, community garden, and botanical pathways. This included reconstructing the main garden entrance with new pavement, handrails, ramps, and a low wall seating area. Refurbishing existing ADA-accessible parking stalls and signage. Adding new accessible plots to the community garden. Installing a replacement drinking fountain and upgrading the garden's various pathways. Honolulu Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) encourages the community to visit the remodeled Garden. For a virtual tour of Foster Botanical Garden click [HERE](#).



CONSTITUENT UPDATES

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Recognizing Blessed Sacrament Church's 85th Anniversary in Pauoa



CM Dos Santos-Tam joined with parishioners and other community members to recognize the 85th Anniversary of Blessed Sacrament Church in Pauoa in August. The church provides valuable community and human services to the Pauoa neighborhood and beyond through their very active food pantry, regular visits to care home facilities in the area, school supplies drives for Pauoa Elementary School, and donations of children's Christmas gifts to Catholic Charities.

CM Dos Santos-Tam with Bishop Larry Silva, Father Steve Nguyen of Blessed Sacrament Church, and other Priests from around the island who gathered for the event.

Councilmembers Hold Productive Dialogue with Navy Region Commander

Rear Adm. Stephen Barnett, Commander of Navy Region Hawai'i welcomed Council Chair Tommy Waters, Council Vice Chair Esther Kia'aina, and CM Dos Santos-Tam to Pearl Harbor in August to discuss a number of issues relating to the Navy's role in the local community, including the Red Hill water contamination crisis, workforce and training opportunities for O'ahu residents at the Pearl Harbor Shipyard, traffic in/around the Pearl Harbor area, and more. Positive relationships and open dialogues between military decision-makers and our local elected officials are more important than ever.



At right: CM Esther Kia'aina, CM Tyler Dos Santos-Tam, RADM Stephen Barnett, Miss Brianna Barnett, Mrs. Naeema Barnett, and Chair Tommy Waters at Pearl Harbor

Work Begins to Repair Problematic Richard Lane Sewage Leak



CM Dos Santos-Tam has been working with Kalihi neighbors living on Richard Lane to try to resolve the constant sewage leaks that have been happening under their driveway for years. The contaminated water drains into the street where residents and children have to avoid stepping or driving in when coming and going from their homes. CM Dos Santos-Tam has been working to determine who exactly are the owners are of this driveway off Richard Lane and to make sure that the various government agencies involved like the State Dept of Health (DOH), the City's Dept of Planning and Permitting (DPP), and Dept of Environmental Services (ENV) are being proactive partners. A privately-contracted plumbing company recently began repair work that will hopefully put a stop to the ongoing sewer leak once and for all.

Apply for "Trees For Honolulu's Future" Keiki Art Contest

The non-profit organization Trees For Honolulu's Future is hosting the 7th Annual We Love Trees Keiki Art Contest. The art contest is for grades K through 6th highlighting the benefits of trees. Through children and art the organization brings awareness and attention to conversations, at schools, among families, and with the public at-large, about the many benefits trees bring to our lives and our environment. Kids can submit their artwork through their website. The teacher of the student with the top recognized artwork will get a Fisher Hawaii gift card of \$50 to use for class supplies! The deadlines to apply is **Friday, October 6, 2023**.

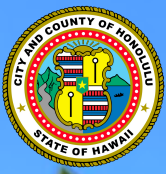
To view the submission form, scan here!



Abandoned Bus Finally Removed After Sexual Assault

In May, our office pushed for the removal of the old abandoned school bus in Iwilei at the corner of Kaaahi St and Dillingham Blvd in what used to be a gas station. Following a sexual assault incident that stirred outrage in the community, we pushed to have the Dept. of Planning and Permitting cite the property owner for having the abandoned bus on their property. We are pleased to report that the bus has been removed and as such, can no longer be used for nefarious criminal purposes.





DISTRICT PROJECTS

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Chinatown Cameras Installed, More To Come

Various City departments, including Department of Information and Technology (DIT), Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM), Department of Transportation (DTS) and the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) worked to install new Chinatown cameras on several street light poles in Chinatown, and more are coming soon. The cameras, which operate 24/7, are connected to HPD's Chinatown substation so officers can monitor multiple cameras at a time. Footage is retained for 30 days in case it is needed to help resolve criminal cases. In addition to a new camera on the Chinatown substation, cameras were installed so far at Hotel/Maunakea; Hotel/Kekaulike; River/Hotel; River/Pauahi; Pauahi/Public Restrooms; Pauahi/Maunakea; and at Pauahi/Smith St.



NSW Requests Grass Trimming at Kapiolani Blvd/Ward Ave Intersection

By request of the Ala Moana-Kakaako Neighborhood Security Watch, the extremely tall grass at the intersection of Kapiolani Boulevard and Ward Avenue on the Jack In the Box side was cut by, the State Department of Transportation (HDOT). The overgrown grass previously obstructed the view of many drivers and was a safety hazard for many pedestrians as they tried to walk through the intersection. The approximately 50 ft. of concrete is under the States jurisdiction.

Right: Ala Moana-Kakaako Neighborhood Security Watch members walking the along their route.



Visit from Mayor of Vigan City Jose "Bonito" Singson



Since 2003 Honolulu has been Sister Cities with Vigan, the capital of the Province of Ilocos Sur in the Philippines. This twenty year exchange of ideas and culture has cultivated a positive relationship between the cities and their elected officials. Mayor Jose "Bonito" Singson paid a visit in August to build relationships with Honolulu officials and to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Vigan Association of Hawai'i and Associates, which is the organization representing the many Hawai'i Filipinos who trace their roots to the Vigan area. As a proud part-Ilocano, CM Dos Santos-Tam was happy to receive Mayor Singson and looks forward to continuing the relationship between our two cities.



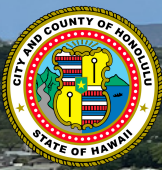
At left: CM Dos Santos-Tam and Mayor Singson of Vigan. At right: The delegation from Vigan visiting the Council Chambers at Honolulu Hale.

Draft Revisions to Primary Urban Center Development Plan Coming Soon

The role of the Primary Urban Center Development Plan (PUC DP) is to implement the comprehensive vision of the O'ahu General Plan through policies and guidelines that reflect the unique conditions, geography, and concerns of the Primary Urban Center. The City Council will refer to its policies for guidance when making important decisions regarding land use and development, such as rezoning or discretionary project approvals. A revised PUC DP proposal will be coming up in the fall for public review, and we encourage community members to provide their input once the draft is put forward.

Hawai'i Fire Relief Housing Program Opens to Assist Maui Residents

As a result of the tragic Maui wildfire last month, thousands of people are displaced and in need of housing. Government and non government organizations have mobilized to fulfill the needs of the community. The Hawaii Fire Relief Housing Program is a State run program by the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism. The goal of the program is to connect those in urgent need of housing, with Hawai'i homeowners willing to assist by offering unoccupied rooms, units or houses on a temporary basis to individuals and families affected by the fires. For more information, visit the Hawaii Fire Relief Housing Program application [HERE!](#)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Board of Water Seeks Public Input on Proposed Rate Increases

The Board of Water Supply is seeking comments on the recently proposed water rate hikes, which will help BWS to focus on water quality, source protection, and replacement and/or treatment of impacted sources. It will also help to pay to maintain and replace the system's most critical infrastructure. Comments are due to the Board by September 30th. More information can be found online at BWS' website at www.boardofwatersupply.com/proposedrates.



Upcoming Hearings for Proposed Kali'u Tower on Ala Moana Blvd

Coral Acquisition LLC is proposing to build a single tower, 294-unit residential, mixed-use condominium called "Kali'u," located at 728 Ala Moana Blvd between Cooke St and Coral St. There will be opportunity for public input via public hearings before HCDA on the following dates: 1) Presentation Hearing on Sept 6 at 9:45 a.m., 2) the Modification Hearing on Sept 7 at 9:00 a.m. and 3) the Decision-Making Hearing on Nov 1 at 9:00 a.m. We encourage Kaka'ako neighbors to weigh in and provide their mana'o on this proposal.



To view the Public Hearing Notices, scan here!



Council Holds Briefing on Handi-Van Plans and Operations

In response to numerous complaints and concerns about Handi-Van operations, CM Dos Santos-Tam held a briefing with the Dept. of Transportation Services on August 22nd. As the Chair of the Council's Transportation Committee, CM Dos Santos-Tam wants to make sure that this vital service adequately supports its riders, that delays and missed trips are minimized, and that the fleet is updated and well-maintained. For more coverage on the topic click [HERE](#).



Downtown-Chinatown Community Comes Together to Clean Kamali'i Park



Last month, a group of hard working volunteers came to participate in the cleanup resulting in the removal of large trash bags filled with litter and debris. It was a multi-departmental effort spearheaded by the Chinese Chamber of Commerce. From the Mayor's Office the department of Environmental Services (ENV), Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM), Honolulu Police Department (HPD) and the Mayor's Office of Culture and the Arts MOCA) were all involved in coordinating the entire project in Chinatown. There was numerous supplies provided such as gloves, trash bags, paint, rakes, and brooms for all volunteers.

Above: CM Dos Santos-Tam with numerous volunteers after the park.

Upcoming Kauluwela Park Cleanup on September 16

Kauluwela Park, which is located in Lower Liliha behind the Liliha Library is turning 100 years old this summer after having been acquired by the City back in 1923. To celebrate and to show the park some well-deserved TLC, CM Dos Santos-Tam's office is organizing a park clean up involving litter pick up, graffiti removal, and scrubbing 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!



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

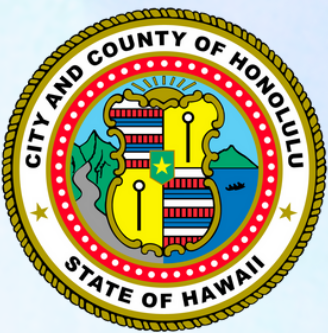
Peter Buck Park: November 12

District 6 Internship Opportunities



Councilmember Tyler Dos Santos-Tam's office is accepting applications for Fall Internships!

Are you a self motivated individual looking to join a talented, diverse team?



- *Social Media Producer/Coordinator*
- *Contributing Editor (Constituent Newsletter) Researcher*
- *Flexible Hours*
- *Practicum programs welcome*

*For more information or to request a position:
Send your cover letter and resume to Lynn Robinson
l.robinson@honolulu.gov*