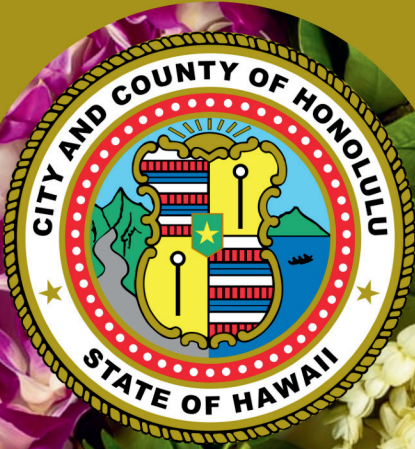


# COUNCIL DISTRICT 4

HAWAI'I KAI | NIU VALLEY | KULI'OU'OU | 'ĀINA HAINA | WAILUPE  
WAI'ALAE-IKI | KALANI VALLEY | KĀHALA | WAI'ALAE | KAIMUKĪ  
WILHELMINA RISE | KAPAHULU | DIAMOND HEAD | WAIKĪKĪ



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## MAY NEWSLETTER CONTENT

- P1 Aloha & Contact Us
- P2-P3 Legislative Update
- P4-P5 Announcements

# ALOHA

As we welcome the month of May, hints of floral fragrances begin to fill the air, and we are greeted with the spirit of May Day, known as Lei Day in Hawai'i. Lei Day is a cherished tradition that beautifully weaves together the Hawaiian cultural fabric of our community. May Day is the perfect time to reflect on commemorating and preserving the heritage and aloha spirit of Hawai'i through the making and gifting of lei, symbolizing the unity and compassion that bind us together. The month of May also marks the commencement of an important City Council review and significant updates to the community-based long-term plan, the Primary Urban Center (PUC) Development Plan (DP).

The Primary Urban Center DP was adopted in 2004 and is currently undergoing revision by the City & County of Honolulu and the Honolulu City Council. The PUC stretches from Kāhala in East Honolulu to Pearl City in Central O'ahu and retains the majority of O'ahu's population.

The revision process begins with DPP proposing the new PUC DP, followed by a public review period that includes pop-up events, workshops, and meetings. The Planning Commission then reviews the draft plan and transmits findings and recommendations in Bill form to the City Council for hearings. Finally, the bill is adopted as an ordinance and becomes law.

During May, as we honor and perpetuate Hawai'i's rich culture, traditions, and the aloha spirit of Lei Day in Hawai'i, let us also embrace our role in fostering a sustainable and thriving path forward for our diverse community that reflects our shared values and aspirations. Your voice matters, and together, we can ensure that our legacy for the next generation is one of prosperity, sustainability, and aloha. My team and I are committed to serving our community and addressing city-related concerns and interests quickly, effectively, and to the best of our abilities.



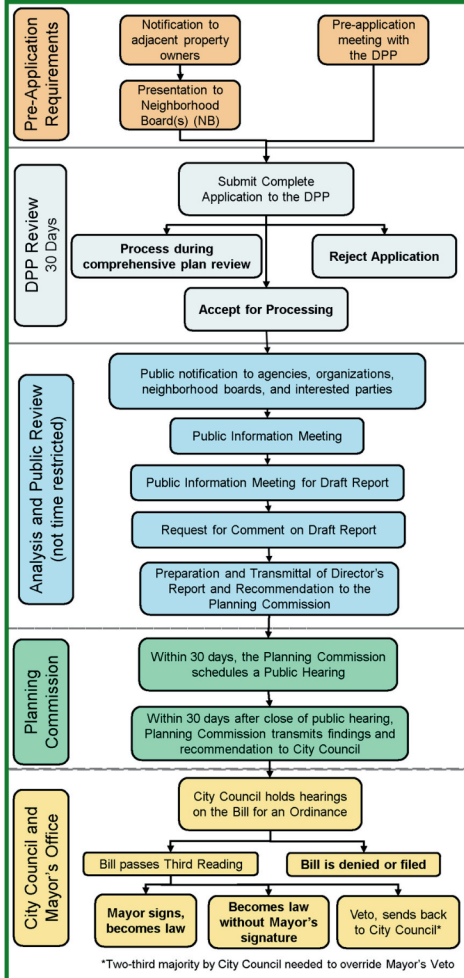
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# LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

## PRIMARY URBAN CENTER (PUC) DEVELOPMENT PLAN (DP) UPDATE FOR KĀHALA NEIGHBORHOOD

### Development Plans & Sustainable Communities Plans Amendment Process Flowchart



**Bill 24 (2024): To Adopt the Revised Primary Urban Center (PUC) Development Plan (DP) for the City & County of Honolulu** passed its first reading at the April 17, 2024, full Council meeting and has been referred to the Committee on Planning and The Economy. These long-range plans guide land use planning and development through goals, policies, and actions based on a shared vision for each region developed in collaboration with the community. Your input is important to me, and I will work to prioritize your needs. I am currently involved in making changes to the Land Use/Place Types Maps for the Kāhala Neighborhood. These maps indicate the various land use designations allowing development and density in each area. As per the PUC DP for Kāhala, it is interesting to note that Kāhala Mall is classified as a "commercial retail center," while the Kū'ono Marketplace, Kāhala Zippy's, Assaggio Bistro, the Kāhala Atrium, Kaimukī-Kāhala YMCA, and Church of the Latter-Day Saints are classified as "Near-Town Corridor-Center Medium." You can find more details on page 44 of the PUC DP. I am concerned about the designation of the Near-Town Corridor-Center Medium for these parcels. This designation allows for residential and mixed-use buildings of 3-8 stories with commercial spaces on the ground floor and residential units on the upper floors. I am not convinced our community would welcome taller buildings on these parcels.

Moreover, the City Council is currently working on amending the Development Standards Section of the Land Use Ordinance, **Bill 64 (2023): Relating to Use Regulations**. The current version of this Bill would permit Kāhala Mall to develop housing above the commercial spaces, like Ala Moana Shopping Center. However, I disagree with DPP's view that the community would want several floors of residential units above Kāhala Mall, even though the height limit is lower in Kāhala compared to Ala Moana. I am committed to preserving the charm and character of our Kāhala Neighborhood. I don't want the more intensive development to change what we already have. I agree that we need mixed-use development in other areas of the PUC DP but not on the eastern border of the Plan's area.

## HAWAI'I STATE LEGISLATURE APPROVES SENATE BILL (SB) 3202

On May 1, 2024, despite overwhelming opposition from the community and the Honolulu City Council, the Hawai'i State Legislature approved **Senate Bill (SB) 3202 Relating to Urban Development**, allowing for greater density for all. Creating more affordable housing for O'ahu residents and families remains one of my top priorities, but I acknowledge and share many of your concerns about the Legislature's final vote on SB3202. I appreciate the community's efforts to oppose this measure, especially those who contacted our state representatives and senators to share their concerns. Your efforts genuinely impacted our lawmakers, as was evident in the tone of their speeches on the House Floor during the vote. They heard you, and so did I. Although we did not achieve the desired outcome by many, I want to remind you that your voice and our community matter. This is not the end of our fight to preserve our residential neighborhoods. I will continue to do my best to address the serious consequences of this measure with any necessary action within my power. Though I cannot speak for the entire City Council at this time, I will work towards making sure that we consider a range of measures to protect against the negative impact of SB3202 while still pursuing its good intentions. I believe this measure may cause more harm than good. Still, I am optimistic that working closely with everyone can protect our communities and address our statewide affordable housing crisis. Mahalo to my colleagues at the State Capitol who opposed SB3202 during its final votes in both the Senate and House chambers. I am committed to working with our state legislators, community stakeholders, and residents to significantly enhance the availability of affordable housing in our community and elevate our overall quality of life.

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

## **BILLS:**

**BILL 52 (2023), CD1:** Relating to Large Dwellings. In response to “monster homes” sprouting up in residentially zoned neighborhoods, I introduced Bill 52 (2023), which aims to provide a more effective deterrent by increasing the penalty for persons who construct or convert a structure in violation of the LUO development standards and requirements for large detached dwellings. The current penalty is an initial \$5,000 fine and up to \$5,000 per day for each day the violation persists, which is a negligible cost of doing business for developers of monster homes. The bill would increase the penalties to \$25,000 as an initial fine and \$10,000 per day for each day the violation persists. **SCHEDULED FOR SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING AS AMENDED IN CD1 FORM** at the May 15, 2024, Full Council Meeting.

**BILL 53 (2023), CD1:** Relating to Registration Requirements for Bed and Breakfast (B&Bs) Homes and Transient Vacation Units (TVUs). This bill will modify some of the registration and renewal requirements, making the process easier for the applicants. Rather than requiring all the requirements to be submitted with each registration or renewal, some of the requirements will only need to be available upon request from DPP. **SCHEDULED FOR SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING AS AMENDED IN CD1 FORM** at the May 15, 2024, Full Council Meeting.

**BILL 3 (2024), CD1:** Relating to Incentives for the Construction of Affordable Rental Housing. The State of Hawai'i has provided \$5,000,000, and the City will provide a matching amount for a total grant fund of \$10 million in FY25. All housing rental units must have a minimum size of 300 square feet. The grant amount is directly proportional to the affordability of the rental housing unit. Affordable housing units rented at 60% to 100% of the Area Median Income (AMI) would be eligible for a grant of \$12,000 per unit. Units rented at 60% AMI or below would be eligible for \$18,000 per rental housing unit. The developer would have 12 months from the Certificate of Occupancy to apply for the grant. **SCHEDULED FOR SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING AS AMENDED IN CD1 FORM** at the May 15, 2024, Full Council Meeting.

**BILL 6 (2024):** Relating to Permits. I introduced Bill 6 (2024) to improve public notification of Stop Work Orders for building permits. Bill 6 (2024) provides DPP with additional tools to tackle the challenge of monster homes. Posting Stop Work Orders becomes mandatory under this legislation. Currently, neighbors are only aware of Stop Work Orders if they proactively search for Notices of Violations on the DPP website. Empowering neighbors to report violations assists DPP in its efforts to combat monster homes. I will work with DPP to refine some of the language in this bill. **SCHEDULED FOR SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING** at the May 15, 2024, Full Council Meeting.

## **RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE APRIL FULL COUNCIL MEETING (04/17/2024):**

**RESO 24-62:** Urging the City Administration to Construct Additional Beach/Sand Volleyball Courts at City Parks.

## **RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESO 24-64:** Authorizing the Use of Overt Video Monitoring in the City & County of Honolulu at Scenic Points in East O'ahu (specifically at the Makapu'u Point Lighthouse lookout, the Kaiwi State Scenic Shoreline trails, the Hālonā Blowhole lookout, and the Lāna'i lookout located near the Koko Head Shooting Complex). **POSTPONED TO A DATE AND TIME TO BE DETERMINED BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY CHAIR** at the May 2, 2024, Committee Meeting.

**RESO 24-115:** Renaming the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) Police Academy Gymnasium. Renaming HPD's Police Academy, Ke Kula Maka'i, Gymnasium in honor of former Honolulu Police Department Chief Lee D. Donohue. **PASSED OUT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY** on May 2, 2024, and was **REPORTED OUT FOR ADOPTION** at the May 15, 2024, Full Council Meeting.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## KĪLAUEA DISTRICT PARK IMPROVEMENTS

City parks play a critical role in community health and wellness. Kīlauea District Park in Kaimukī is beloved by neighbors, and the park and facilities are heavily utilized.

It was recently brought to my attention that poor and deteriorated conditions at Kīlauea District Park have made its facilities problematic and dangerous for park users. My team and I visited the park last month and observed the disappointing conditions firsthand, including areas in the gymnasium, recreation/multipurpose rooms, and outdoor courts. In response to my visit, I included an additional \$9 million in the City's FY25 Capital Improvement Projects Budget for improvements to the recreational facilities, including Kīlauea District Park, Queen's Beach Park, Kapāolono Community Park, Ala Wai Community Park, and Ala Wai Neighborhood Park.

I have received positive responses from community members and facility users after assisting the Table Tennis Club in obtaining permission and approval to use the multipurpose room at Kīlauea District Park on Saturdays from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM. Before the pandemic, the club met regularly every week on Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. Towards the end of the pandemic, during the Summer of 2022, the Table Tennis Club was only able to secure Fridays despite a huge demand to play table tennis on Saturdays. I am happy to report that 25 table tennis players, ranging from keiki, ages 8 to kūpuna, 93-years-young, now have access to the multipurpose room weekly on Fridays and Saturdays.



## PHASE 3: KAPI'OLANI PARK PATHWAY IMPROVEMENTS

Kapi'olani Park Pathway began its third phase of renovations in March 2024, which aims to expand and improve the popular existing pathway on the Mauka side of Kalākaua Avenue between Monsarrat Avenue and Paki Avenue. The current walkway will be replaced with a wider concrete pathway. The project will be divided into sections, starting from the Diamond Head side of the park near the Dillingham Fountain, and is expected to be completed by the end of summer 2024.

The \$125,886 design contract and \$14,593 archaeological monitoring plan were awarded to SEY Engineers. The \$947,700 construction contract was awarded to Integrated Construction, Inc.



The first project, bordering the Honolulu Zoo from Kapahulu Avenue to Monsarrat Avenue, improved about a quarter mile of the pathway in 2021. The second project in 2023 renovated the three-quarter mile stretch of the shared-use path along the Makai side of Paki Avenue between Monsarrat Avenue and Poni Moi Road.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS (CON'T)

## HOW TO SUBMIT TESTIMONY

Submitting testimony to the City Council is the best way to share your mana'o and impact important decisions. All testimony is collected for use during the public hearing process. Therefore, all testimony is public information.

### **Submit Written Testimony Online**

1. Visit [www.honolulu.gov/ccl-testimony-form](http://www.honolulu.gov/ccl-testimony-form).
2. Include your first and last name, phone number, and e-mail address.
3. Select the appropriate meeting date and Council/Public Hearing/Committee in which the measure will be heard. The meeting calendar and agendas are provided on [www.honolulucitycouncil.org](http://www.honolulucitycouncil.org).
4. Enter the Agenda Item (The measure you wish to testify on, a bill or resolution number).
5. Select a position on the measure: Support/Oppose/Comment.
6. Indicate if you are testifying as yourself or an organization.
7. Type your written testimony or attach it as a .doc or .pdf.
8. Review for accuracy, then submit!

### **Submit Oral Testimony Online**

Testifiers can submit oral testimony remotely through the Zoom video conferencing platform.

1. A Zoom link and meeting number will be provided on the meeting agenda and posted six days before the Council Meeting or Committee Hearing.
2. To register, visit [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us), click "Join a Meeting," and enter the meeting ID number. You will be taken to a form where you can complete the registration process.
3. As a registrant, you will receive an e-mail containing links and information on joining the meeting via phone or video conference.
4. Remote testimony will be taken at the start of the agenda and then closed. Each speaker is allowed the following:
  - a. A Three-minute presentation on Public Hearing, New Business, and Sunshine items; and
  - b. A One-minute presentation on all other items.
5. If you are testifying via Zoom, you are strongly encouraged to register at least 24 hours before the start of the meeting.



## BEST PRACTICES

You must testify on behalf of yourself, or on behalf of an organization.

Speak genuinely from the heart. Share your personal reasons for why you are testifying and how the agenda item up for discussion impacts you.

Come prepared with talking points that are clear, concise, and right to the point of your goal.

Time yourself presenting your oral testimony to ensure that you are speaking within the allotted time given!

## TESTIMONY TEMPLATE

Dear Chair \_\_\_\_, Vice Chair \_\_\_\_\_, and members of the committee.

My name is \_\_\_\_, and I live in \_\_\_\_\_, and I am testifying today in support/opposition of (agenda item).

*Clearly state your goal and the desired outcome of supporting OR opposing the measure.*

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Your Name  
Zip Code



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