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COUNCIL DISTRICT 7



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UPDATES ON COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Feral Chickens on City Property

If feral chickens are on City property, the Department of Customer Services recommends that residents contact Sandwich Isle Pest Solutions directly at (808) 808-7370. This ensures quicker coordination and a more immediate response, as they can schedule trap setup to address the issue. For more information on feral chickens, visit www8.honolulu.gov/csd/feral-chickens.

"Stop" Sign Reinstalled at Uahi Street and Uahi Place

The Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM) has reinstalled the fallen "Stop" sign at the corner of Uahi Street and Uahi Place.

Damaged Pole Removed Along Kaonohi Street

A damaged pole along the sidewalk on Kaonohi Street near the Diamond Head side of the old Kam Drive-In property was reported as a potential safety hazard. The sign previously attached to the pole is unknown. In response, DFM initiated Service Request No. 60768 to remove the hazard.

New Traffic Signal Sensor Loops Installed

New sensor loops have been installed at Moanalua Road and Heleconia Place, and the traffic signals are functioning as programmed. The sensor loops were damaged during the wheelchair ramp project, which has now been completed.

Makalapa Neighborhood Park Improvements and Repairs

On behalf of the Makalapa Neighborhood Park Working Group, Councilmember Cordero presented a list of proposed improvements and repairs to the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR). In response, DPR took the following actions:

- A work order was submitted to Maintenance Support Services (MSS) to repair the court light timer.
- Benches were removed to discourage after-hours loitering, following multiple complaints.
- A work order was submitted to MSS to repair two holes in the fence line along the field area.
- Two additional trash receptacles were installed near the court area.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

02/26/25

10:00 a.m. - City Council Meeting

03/04/25

9:00 a.m. - Budget Committee

1:00 p.m. - Housing, Sustainability, Economy & Health Committee

2:30 p.m. - Parks Committee

03/05/25

9:00 a.m. - Planning, Infrastructure & Transportation Committee

1:00 p.m. - International & Legal Affairs Committee

2:30 p.m. - Executive Management Committee

03/06/25

9:00 a.m. - Zoning Committee

1:00 p.m. - Public Safety & Customer Services Committee

2:30 p.m. - Innovation, Technology & Entertainment Committee

03/19/25

10:00 a.m. - City Council Meeting

HELPFUL LINKS

View Councilmember Cordero's District Page at honolulucitycouncil.org/district-7-cordero

Watch Council Meetings Live on 'Ōlelo 54 or on honolulucitycouncil.org

View Bills/Resolutions at hnldoc.ehawaii.gov/hnldoc

Submit Your Testimony Online at hnldoc.ehawaii.gov/hnldoc/testimony

AT&T NETWORK BUILD IN 'AIEA AND SALT LAKE

Councilmember Cordero has been informed that New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T) is working with Hawaiian Electric to install a small wireless facility, or "small cell," on existing Hawaiian Electric poles in the right-of-way near 98-887 Moanalua Road in 'Aiea and 1304 Anapa Street in Salt Lake.

The small wireless facility has been designed and approved in compliance with all relevant regulations. These facilities are strategically placed to enhance wireless service coverage and address growing demand.

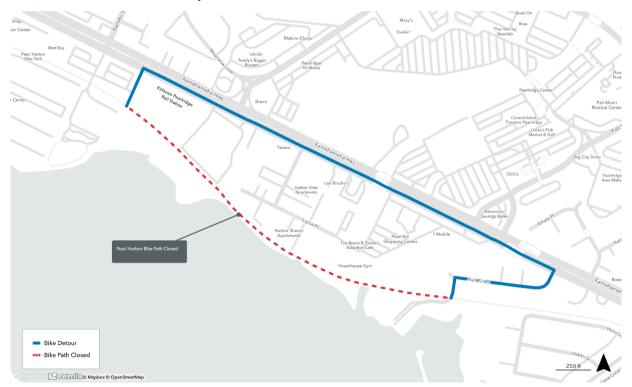
Work is expected to begin on February 24, with the facility going online in June, barring any unforeseen delays. If you would like to provide any comments, please email HawaiiATTInfo@att.com.

PEARL HARBOR BIKE PATH (PHBP) PARTIAL CLOSURE FOR ASPHALT AND CONCRETE UPGRADES

The Department of Transportation Services (DTS) announced that a portion of the PHBP will be closed to replace the existing asphalt and concrete surface with new concrete, providing bicyclists with a smoother, safer ride. As part of the improvements, bollards, signage, striping, and lighting will be installed to enhance safety.

Construction began on Monday, February 3, and is expected to be completed by August 2025. The path will remain closed to the public 24/7 during work hours, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

A detour along Kamehameha Highway will be in place for pathway users, with signage posted to prevent entry into the construction zone. Below is the map of the PHBP that will be under construction and closed (in red). The detour (in blue) will be available for bicyclists/walkers/runners.



This project is a key component of the South Shore Shared Use Path plan, which will establish a 32-mile bicycle and pedestrian pathway connecting communities from Nānākuli to Mānoa. While bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure exists within each community along this corridor, this initiative aims to improve regional connectivity for active transportation users by linking these pathways together. For more information on the South Shore Use Path, visit: www.honolulu.gov/completestreets/west-oʻahu.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES: BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Bill 52 (2024), CD1 – Relating to Electronic Bicycles

This Bill establishes e-bike regulations, including a motor size limit of 750 watts (equivalent to a maximum speed of 20 miles per hour) and a helmet requirement for riders under 18. The Bill also prohibits wheelies and other tricks that lift a wheel off the ground, while reinforcing that e-bikes over 750 watts remain illegal and subject to HPD enforcement. It aims to enhance safety and enable enforcement of e-bike regulations on O'ahu.

This Bill passed third reading as amended at the January 29 Council meeting and has been signed into law as Ordinance 25-6.

<u>Bill 19 (2024), FD1, CD2</u> – Establishing a Resident Preference for City Affordable Housing Programs

This establishes a "Resident Preference" wherein Hawai'i residents are given preference for all City housing programs that are: (1) Funded by Honolulu taxpayer dollars; (2) Developed by the City; or (3) Purchased and managed by the City. To qualify, housing applicants must be a "full-time resident of the City" who: (1) is registered to vote in the State of Hawai'i; and (2) spends at least 200 days in the state.

Co-introduced by Councilmembers Tyler Dos Santos-Tam and Cordero, this Bill passed third reading as amended at the January 29 Council meeting and has been signed into law as Ordinance 25-5.

<u>Resolution 25-03, CD1</u> – Reaffirming the City Policy that Landfills Should Not be Located Above Drinking Water Sources

Via Resolution 25-03, the Council is reaffirming its policy, initially established in Resolution 03-09, FD1, on April 16, 2003, that municipal solid waste landfills should not be located near the City's underground drinking water sources. This policy was originally adopted due to concerns that harmful substances from landfills could contaminate the aquifer, posing a public health risk. Despite advances in landfill technology, such as improved liners and leachate systems, the Council maintains its concerns, especially in light of the 2021 Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility leak, which highlighted the vulnerability of the island's water supply. The Resolution strongly opposes any landfill located near drinking water sources and reaffirms the Council's commitment to protecting Honolulu's vital water resources for future generations.

Co-introduced by Councilmembers Matt Weyer and Cordero, this Resolution was adopted as amended in CD1 form on January 29 and transmitted to the City Administration for consideration.

Resolution 25-25 – Requesting the City Administration to Submit the Updated 2025 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan to the City Council

The Council is requesting the City Administration of Honolulu to submit the updated 2025 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan to the City Council, as required by federal law for eligibility to receive federal project grant funds. Federal regulations mandate that the City's hazard mitigation plan be reviewed and updated every five years, with the current update due by February 2025. Additionally, it requests the Administration to present the updated plan to each of the City's neighborhood boards.

Introduced by Councilmember Cordero, this Resolution was adopted at the January 29 Council meeting and transmitted to the City Administration for consideration.

Resolution 25-23, CD1 – Granting a Special Management Area ("SMA") Major Permit to Līpoa Development LLC This grants an SMA Major Permit for the demolition of six existing two-story apartment buildings and construction of the Hale O Līpoa Affordable Rental Housing Project on approximately 42,000 square feet of land zoned BMX-3 Community Business Mixed Use District in the 'Aiea-Pearl City Transit-Oriented Development Special District located at 98-150 Līpoa Place.

Based on community concerns and testimony in opposition to this project, Councilmember Cordero voted no on this Resolution. Despite her no vote, the Council, with a vote of 8-1, adopted this Resolution as amended in CD1 form on January 29.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES: BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS (CONTINUED)

<u>Resolution 25-26, CD1</u> – Authorizing Exemptions for the Hale O Līpoa Affordable Rental Housing Development Project

This approves exemptions, pursuant to the State's 201H Law, from certain City application fees, infrastructure, or public works fees and charges, and development standards for the development of the Hale O Līpoa Affordable Rental Housing Development Project on approximately 42,000 square feet of land zoned BMX-3 Community Business Mixed Use District in the 'Aiea-Pearl City Transit-Oriented Development Special District located at 98-150 Līpoa Place.

Although this project seeks to build 152 much-needed affordable rental units, based on community concerns and testimony in opposition to this project, Councilmember Cordero voted no on this Resolution. The Council, with a vote of 7-1, with Councilmember Nishimoto absent, adopted this Resolution as amended in CD1 form on January 29.

To view all Bills and Resolutions, visit hnldoc.ehawaii.gov/hnldoc. All Council meetings are recorded and can be watched at youtube.com/@HonoluluCityCouncil.

CITY LAUNCHES \$5 MILLION AFFORDABLE HOUSING GRANT PROGRAM TO SUPPORT LOW-INCOME RENTAL DEVELOPMENT

The City's Department of Land Management is soliciting proposals from nonprofit entities and public agencies for funding opportunities through the Affordable Housing Fund (AHF). The City is making \$5 million in funding available to support the development, rehabilitation, and expansion of affordable rental housing for households earning 60% or less of the Area Median Income (AMI).

In this solicitation, the City is prioritizing projects that serve extremely low-income households (30% AMI and below), including those experiencing homelessness, as part of its commitment to expanding housing opportunities and transitioning individuals from emergency shelters to permanent housing.

Key Details of the Grant Program

- 1. Total Funding Available: \$5,000,000
- 2. Eligible Applicants: Nonprofit organizations and public agencies
- 3. Eligible Projects
 - 1. Affordable rental housing development, construction, and rehabilitation
 - 2. Land acquisition for affordable housing projects
 - 3. Single Room Occupancy housing developments
- 4. Funding Cap: \$55,000 per AHF Qualified Unit
- 5. Affordability Commitment: Housing must remain affordable for a minimum of 60 years

Selection and Submission Process

- 1. Pre-Proposal Conference: February 7, 2025 (via WebEx)
- 2. Deadline for Clarifications: February 20, 2025
- 3. Proposal Submission Deadline: March 18, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. HST
- 4. Submission Location: Office of the Division of Purchasing, Department of Budget and Fiscal Services (BFS), City Hall

To apply, interested applicants can review the full Request for Grant Proposals (RGP-DLM-1859213) and submission details on the HANDS website at https://hands.ehawaii.gov/hands/opportunities/opportunity-details/25256. For inquiries, please contact BFS, Division of Purchasing, at bfspurchasing@honolulu.gov. To view the full press release, visit tinyurl.com/2-3-2025-PR-AHF.

HONOLULU RATE COMMISSION SEEKS INPUT ON RECOMMENDED FARE AND POLICY CHANGES THROUGH IN-PERSON MEETINGS

The Honolulu Rate Commission is inviting public comment and testimony on proposed policy changes affecting Skyline, TheBus, and TheHandi-Van at several upcoming meetings across Oʻahu. As operating and maintenance costs rise across Honolulu's multimodal transportation system, the proposed changes to public transportation fare structures are designed to ensure that the City's system remains reliable, sustainable, and responsive to the evolving needs of Oʻahu's transit riders.

The public is encouraged to provide testimony at the Commission's regular meeting on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 2:30 p.m. in the Mānoa Falls Conference Room, located at 711 Kapi'olani Boulevard, Suite 1600. The meeting can be attended in person or virtually via Zoom. A copy of the meeting agenda is available on the Rate Commission website at www8.honolulu.gov/dts/rate-commission. Additionally, the Commission will accept inperson testimony at the following community meetings:

- Monday, February 10, 2025, at 7:30 p.m.
- Kapolei Hale, 1000 Ulu'ōhi'a Street, Conference Rooms A & B
- Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.
- Kapālama Hale, 925 Dillingham Boulevard, Room 277
- Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.
- Kāne'ohe District Park, 45-660 Kea'ahala Road, Meeting Room 2

Proposed Policy Changes Include:

- Increasing adult monthly cap/pass from \$80 to \$90
- Increasing youth monthly cap/pass from \$40 to \$45
- Raising the reduced fare for single rides from \$1.25 to \$1.50
- Raising the reduced fare day cap from \$3 to \$3.75
- Increasing reduced fare annual pass from \$45 to \$50
- Implementing a \$0.25 incentive for using the HOLO card (TheBus only)
- Raising TheHandi-Van fare from \$2.25 to \$2.50
- Increasing the 7-day pass cost from \$35 to \$40
- Authorizing the DTS Director to set special event fares
- Eliminating the \$1.5 million budget cap for the low-income fare program

Submit Written Testimony:

- Email: ratecomm@honolulu.gov
- Fax: (808) 768-4730
- Mail: 711 Kapi'olani Boulevard, 16th Floor, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813, Attention: Rate Commission

Please note that written testimony, including the testifier's address, email, and phone number, will be made publicly available on the Rate Commission website.

If you require an auxiliary aid/service, accommodation due to a disability, or an interpreter for a language other than English, please contact the DTS Office at (808) 768-8329 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or email hchee@honolulu.gov as soon as possible. Early requests have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled.

The City values public input and encourages all residents to share their perspectives to help improve and expand O'ahu's transportation network.

EXTENSION OF TRANSIT CONSTRUCTION MITIGATION FUND (TCMF) APPLICATION DEADLINE

BFS has announced an extension of the application deadline for the rail-related TCMF Grant to Friday, February 21, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. The TCMF online portal, which opened for submissions on Monday, January 27, was initially set to close on Friday, February 7. This extension allows more time for businesses to apply.

In January 2024, the Honolulu City Council passed Bill 40, establishing the TCMF to provide financial relief to local businesses affected by the Honolulu Rail Transit Project's construction. For the current fiscal year, grants of \$10,000 per applicant will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to available program funding.

Eligibility Requirements:

To qualify for a TCMF grant, businesses must meet the following criteria:

- Have 15 or fewer employees
- Generate less than \$750,000 in annual revenue
- Be located within one block of active rail construction on Dillingham Boulevard
- Be open for business at the time of application
- Be majority-owned by City residents
- Have been in operation at their current physical location since before January 1, 2022
- Meet the 10% revenue decline requirement due to construction

Subject to annual funding availability, the City plans to continue offering TCMF grants to businesses along the active construction corridor for the rail line. For detailed information on the application process and grant eligibility, please visit www.revitalizeoahu.org/tcmf-info.

HŌKŪLE'A OPENING CEREMONY AND TOURS







Councilmember Cordero had the incredible opportunity to join the community in celebrating and welcoming Hōkūle'a to Pu'uloa (Pearl Harbor). This event was a full-circle moment for Councilmember Cordero, as she had previously toured Hikianalia, Hōkūle'a's sister canoe.

This year, Hōkūle'a celebrates her 50th anniversary in March! Since her first launch in 1975, she has sailed over 300,000 miles and completed 15 deep-sea voyages. Hōkūle'a is more than just a double-hulled voyaging canoe; she symbolizes resilience, Hawaiian culture, and hope.

In 2021, Councilmember Cordero joined the Hōkūle'a crew for their oyster restoration project, which utilized oysters to naturally bioremediate and clean our waters. Every time she has the chance to talk story with the crew, she is inspired by the watermen and women who dedicate their lives not only to the sacred practice of traditional sea voyaging and navigation but also to mālama honua (caring for the earth).

Mahalo to these incredible individuals for their commitment to preserving Hawaiian culture and traditions for future generations. To learn more about Hōkūle'a's journey, visit hokulea.com or follow @hokuleacrew on social media.