



DISTRICT 6 UPDATE

FEBRUARY 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

\$647K in Police Funding Announced for Chinatown Patrols



On January 4, CM Dos Santos-Tam joined Mayor Blangiardi, Police Chief Logan, Prosecutor Alm, and Major Sung for a press Conference on the \$647K funding for additional police presence in Chinatown to help ensure public safety and strengthen police and community relations. Cutting down on crime in Chinatown will have benefits for surrounding neighborhoods like Iwilei-Palama, Liliha, Downtown, Nuuanu, Pauoa, and Kakaako.

Mayor Blangiardi, HPD Chief Logan, CM Dos Santos-Tam, Prosecutor Alm, and HPD Major Sung from the Chinatown substation at the press conference announcing the additional police funding.

Meeting with our School Principals

Having just began his term, one of CM Dos Santos-Tam's goals is to meet with every school principal in the district within the next few months. Over the past several weeks, CM Dos Santos-Tam has had the opportunity to meet with several area school principals, including Ned Uemae of Nu'uuanu Elementary School, Sean Wong of Roosevelt High School, Ronnie Victor of Kawanakoa Middle School, Daniel Larkin of Kalihi Waena Elementary School, Jill Texeira of Ka'iulani Elementary School, Sonja Samsonas of Kauluwela Elementary School, and Laurie Luczak of Stevenson Middle School.

Several key needs were discussed for the schools and the surrounding community, such as better crosswalks near Roosevelt High School and the homeless issues faced by the schools surrounding Downtown/Chinatown.



Speaking with Principal Wong of Roosevelt High School, who specifically noted the need for better pedestrian safety improvements in the area and more attention to the homeless who sometimes live in the gulch between the campus and 'Auwaiolimu Street.

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BILLS & LEGISLATION

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City Council Committees

Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam was honored to be named as the Chair of two committees: Executive Matters and Legal Affairs (EMLA), and Transportation (TRANS). CM Dos Santos-Tam was also named as Vice Chair of the Zoning Committee (ZON), and serves as a voting member of the Committees on Housing, Sustainability, and Health (HSH), and also Public Safety (PS).

For more information on the City Council, visit honolulucitycouncil.org.

State Legislature Opening Day

For the State Legislature's Opening Day, State Rep. John Mizuno invited CM Dos Santos-Tam to be his guest on the floor to begin the 32nd State Legislative Session. CM Dos Santos-Tam is committed to collaborating with all of our State elected officials to address outstanding issues within our District.



At right: CM Dos Santos-Tam with State Rep. John Mizuno (Kalihi Valley). Below (L-R): With House Speaker Scott Saiki (Kaka'ako), Rep. Della Au Belatti (Makiki-Punchbowl), Rep. Jenna Takenouchi (Nu'uuanu, Pauoa, Liliha, 'Alewa), Rep. Daniel Holt (Downtown-Chinatown), Rep. Sonny Canaden and his guests (Kalihi), and Rep. Micah Aiu (Portions of Kalihi).



Visit with the Rotary Club of Honolulu

On Friday, January 27, 2023, CM Dos Santos-Tam met with the Rotary Club of Honolulu at Ke'elikōlani Middle School. Together, the group discussed their ideas and concerns about the Downtown-Chinatown area, their numerous service projects, and upcoming legislation to help improve and address problems in the neighborhood.

CM Dos Santos-Tam with the Downtown Rotary Club at one of their regular meetings, held Friday mornings at Ke'elikōlani Middle School.

Congratulations Vice Principal Davis!

On the Council floor on January 25th, the City Council recognized Kawanānakoā Middle School Vice Principal Dr. Bebi Davis for winning the Vice Principal of the Year. Bravo and well done!

CM Dos Santos-Tam and other Councilmembers honoring Dr. Davis on the Council floor.





IN THE COMMUNITY

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Meeting with Papakōlea Leaders

Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam attended the Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) briefing on the Kalāwahine Reservoir project at Stevenson Middle School. The BWS provided an update on the reasons for the project termination and answered questions from the community. CM Dos Santos-Tam and Senior Advisor Brandon Mitsuda also discussed various community-driven projects by Kula No Na Po'e Hawai'i.

CM Dos Santos-Tam was pleased to join leaders from the Papakōlea community, many of whom have been so involved in improving this special homestead community.

Groundbreaking for the "Cool Metro" Affordable Apartment Project

With affordable housing being such an important topic in the community, CM Dos Santos-Tam was proud to have joined community advocates for the groundbreaking of the "Cool Metro" affordable apartment project in Mō'ili'ili. While this project is not in District 6, it is an indication that by the City working with the private sector in a meaningful way, we can help make affordable housing projects a reality. Under Bill 7, 80% of the units have to be affordable to families making below the average income for the island of O'ahu.

Accompanied by Mayor Rick Blangiardi and community advocates, CM Dos Santos Tam broke ground on the affordable housing project.



Keeping Kaka'ako Safe with the Citizens Patrol

Mahalo to the Kaka'ako Citizens Patrol for letting our office join on their weekly walk around the neighborhood! Our Neighborhood Security Watch programs, alongside our partners at the Honolulu Police Dept to help to engage community members, spot problems, and keep our residents and businesses safe. If you want to start a Neighborhood Security Watch in your area, give my office a call at (808) 768-5006.

Meeting with Kaka'ako Condo GMs and Board Presidents

Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam organized a sit down discussion with condo general managers and board presidents on January 26th to discuss the issues that residents experience in the area. Topics ranged from the high population of feral chickens, noise level, and the need for safe driving and pedestrian-safe roads. Our office thanks Speaker Scott Saiki and Senator Sharon Moriwaki for partnering in this meeting and for helping to address the state-level issues that were raised.





CONSTITUENT UPDATES

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Taking Action on Abandoned Vehicles and Abandoned Homes



Please let our office know if there are any other abandoned homes or squatter homes in your neighborhood.

The abandoned truck on Numana Drive in Kalihi has been successfully removed. For other abandoned vehicles, please call (808) 768-2530. Our office is also working on addressing abandoned homes in the district. I have asked the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) to utilize their enforcement power under the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu (ROH).

Noncompliant properties we have notified DPP about:

- 522 Captain Cook Avenue in Lower Punchbowl
- 1612 Maliu Street in Kalihi Valley
- 1627 Pohaku Street in Kamehameha Heights

Clogged Storm Drains Now Cleared

Due to constituent concern, our office requested the clearing of several storm drains, especially in the Liliha area. Since then, the City has cleared the drains on Ekekela Place and will conduct a study to determine what further can be done.

If there are any clogged or overflowing storm drains please contact my office immediately.



Before

After

Kaka'ako Sinkhole Repairs Underway

The Department of Design and Construction (DDC) stated that the above ground construction is set to begin Monday, January 30th. The project is estimated to take 3-6 months to resolve the water that is leaking from the joints of the existing box culvert storm drain underneath Cooke Street.



Rail Work Proceeds on Dillingham Blvd and into Chinatown



Utility relocation work continues on Dillingham, with modified traffic patterns, coning, and other changes for drivers. The relocation work will begin in earnest on Nimitz Highway through Iwilei and Chinatown starting in February.

For more information, please visit honolulustransit.org.