OCTOBER 2023 honolulucitycouncil.org COUNCILMEMBER TYLER DOS SANTOS-TAM tdossantos-tam@honolulu.gov - 808-768-5006



Aloha Neighbors!

I am honored to have the opportunity to represent District 6 at the Honolulu City Council. Together, we will make our community safer and more equitable. Your ideas and input help me to serve our community better. 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 assist you! - Tyler

Councilmembers Introduce Game Room Enforcement Package

CM Dos Santos-Tam and CM Andria Tupola, who represents Leeward Oahu, joined with members of HPD's Kalihi Station and the Narcotics/Vice Division to announce a package of legislation aimed at stopping the proliferation of game rooms around the island. The press conference was held at Kalihi Uka Elementary School, which is across Kalihi Street from two longtime game rooms which were raided in July. CM Dos Santos-Tam said, "Game rooms are dangerous. They bring guns, drugs, and illegal activity into our communities and near our children. It's unacceptable. This package improves the laws we currently have on the books, while giving the city more power to come down CM Dos Santos-Tam (left) speaks to reporters with on landlords who allow illegal activity on their property. It helps get criminals HPD Sergeant Mike Lambert (center) and other officers out of our communities and away from our children."



from the Kalihi substation at a press conference held across from a now-shuttered game room across Kalihi Uka Elementary School.



Above: Images from a Liliha game room during an HPD raid in early 2022.

Scan to listen to the Hawai'i Public Radio story on the game room legislation



Summary of Anti-Game Room Legislation

- Bill 57, Relating to Game Rooms, would give DPP and Corporation Counsel greater ability to go after landlords of properties used for gambling establishments that "promote such unsafe conditions" and "threaten the health, safety, and welfare of the public by creating unsafe public nuisances." It would allow DPP to impose \$1,000 in fines per day, and up to \$150,000 in total on landlords. It also would allow the Corporation Counsel to take legal action on any landlord allowing game rooms on their property.
- Bill 58, Relating to Authorized Personnel, would allow HPD officers, if designated by DPP, to impose penalties for building code, fire code and land use ordinance violations. In addition, it would allow demolition of a building or structure that is "erected, constructed, enlarged, altered, improved, or converted without the necessary permit."
- Resolution 23-228 urges City agencies designated to enforce the City's building code, fire code, and land use ordinance to work with the Honolulu Police Department in the gathering of evidence and serving of notices of violation for building code, fire code, and land use ordinance
- violations for properties on which illegal game rooms are situated.

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Bill 20 Passes, Making Kalihi Valley Parking Zones Permanent

In a major step toward addressing parking concerns in Kalihi Valley, the Council passed Bill 20, "Relating to Restricted Parking Zones" (RPZ), on October 4th. The bill, introduced by CMs Dos Santos-Tam and Cordero, transitions Kalihi Valley's three temporary restricted parking zone (RPZ) pilot programs to permanent status, while setting up a process to establish zones in other parts of Oʻahu, if strict criteria are met. "Waiting six years was far too long. Kalihi Valley residents have endured delay after delay to make this pilot program permanent. With Bill 20, they are finally getting the solution they deserve," said CM Dos Santos-Tam, "I'm grateful for the amount of time and effort my colleagues put into creating the best possible version of this bill. We spent hours discussing, compromising, improving - this was democracy at work." State Rep. John Mizuno of Kalihi Valley echoed these comments, stating: "This will be a win for our Kalihi community. It will improve parking, reduce crime, and support Kalihi Valley residents, who have been asking for a permanent solution for years. I applaud Councilmembers Dos Santos-Tam and Cordero for taking on the issue."



Above: An RPZ sign in Wilson Tract. Currently there are three RPZ zones in Kalihi Vallev.



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, with an eye toward targeting habitual monster home developers who falsify plans or building permit applications. The bill creates criteria for someone to be labeled as having a "history of making false statements," and in November, 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. We invite community members to provide their input on what penalties would be appropriate.

Makiki Neighborhood Board Votes to Support 5-Way Stop Proposal

On Thursday, September 21, the Makiki Neighborhood Board meet to discuss the proposed 5-Way Stop at the intersection of Prospect/ 'Iolani/Alapa'i to address speeding, limited line-of-sight issues, and overall hazards for pedestrians. The Board passed a resolution that expressed support for a 5-way stop at the intersection with a request for further study of other alternatives such as a partial "round-about" in the future to ensure pedestrian and driver safety. CM Dos Santos-Tam successfully added funding in the 2023-2024 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 will continue to work with DTS to help resolve this issue.



Resolution Paves Way for Redevelopment of Hocking Hale at King/Nu'uanu



Hocking Hale is an affordable housing development project at the corner of N. King St and Nuʻuanu Ave, within the Chinatown Special District. <u>Resolution 23-216</u> proposes to convert a commercial building into an affordable rental housing development with 39 units at 30% to 50% AMI or below, and 1 on-site manager's unit. Recreational spaces will include a breezeway, courtyard, community room, and a fitness gym. There will also be four short term and 20 long term bicycle parking stalls. The resolution was approved on October 4th.

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Area Electeds Hold Listening Session for Papakōlea Residents



CM Dos Santos-Tam greeting attendees at September's Papakōlea community listening session.

Representatives Della Au Belatti and Jenna Takenouchi partnered with CM Dos Santos-Tam to hold a listening session for Papakōlea residents on September 27 to learn more about their concerns and follow up with action. Papakōlea attendees brought up concerns regarding speeding on Tantalus Dr, homelessness in the community, illegal rentals/Airbnb operations, congested parking, abandoned vehicles, derelict homes and properties, wildfire mitigation, maintenance of the stairway from l'aukea St to 'Auwaiolimu St, status of the walkway from 'Auwaiolimu St down to Pauoa ES along the "boneyard," prevention of Little Fire Ant and other invasive species, and maintenance and flow of Kanahā Stream. The Papakōlea area elected officials will be working together on responses and plans to address these issues and more.

Community Members Gather to Protest Animal Cruelty and Inspire Action

After the disturbing news of animal cruelty resulting in the death of a dog in Waianae, community members organized an animal rights rally in front of Honolulu Hale and the State Capitol to bring awareness to the issue, support legislation increasing the punitive or criminal penalties for acts of animal cruelty, and supporting the investigation in order to hold the perpetrator accountable. The <u>Hawaiian Humane Society</u> investigates misdemeanor animal cruelty cases and the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) investigates felony animal cruelty cases. To report incidents of animal cruelty, please contact the Hawaiian Humane Society at 808-356-2250 or Animal Crime Stoppers at 808-955-8300. You may also call 911.



Above: CM Dos Santos-Tam with numerous anima rights advocates and community members.

City Awarded Grant for Flashing Pedestrian Beacon on N. School St



The City was selected to receive a 2023 AARP Community Challenge grant for \$30,000 to improve pedestrian visibility and safety, which will be used to pilot a new, low-cost type of rectangular rapid-flashing beacon at the corner of N. School St and Ahonui St, in front of Kōkua Kalihi Valley. AARP's Community Challenge program supports the efforts of cities, towns, and neighborhoods to become enjoyable, safe places for people to live. This specific pedestrian crossing has been identified as a "Tier 1 High Pedestrian Injury Corridor" in the Oʻahu Pedestrian Plan, and is frequently used by area residents and bus riders.

CM Dos Santos-Tam said, "As Chair of the Transportation Committee pedestrian safety is one of my top priorities, and so I'm happy to see the funding for this much-needed project come through." Without delay or unexpected circumstances the improvements are set to be installed by Thursday, November 30.

Kwangtung Community Honolulu Lin Yee Hui 48th Annual Autumn Banquet

In September, CM Dos Santos-Tam's office recognized the Kwangtung Community Honolulu Lin Yee Hui (the Kwangtung Society) on its 48th anniversary. Kwangtung, also known as Guangdong or Canton, is the province where over 90% of Chinese immigrants came from, as early as the plantation era until now. The purpose of the organization is to promote and preserve the cultural identity of those who immigrated to Hawai'i from the province of Kwangtung (Guangdong) in China. This group, as well as many others in Chinatown, are committed to continuing to help with revitalization efforts in this neighborhood.



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Recognizing Cathedral Basilica Our Lady of the Peace's 180th Anniv.



At the September City Council meeting, CM Dos Santos-Tam gave an Honorary Certificate to the Cathedral of Our Lady of Peace to recognize the cathedral's 180th anniversary. Catholicism first came to the Hawaiian islands through missionaries in 1827. Fr. Alexis Bachelot was one of the first traveling missionaries who helped to establish the Cathedral in the heart of what is now Downtown Honolulu. Today, the Cathedral Basilica continues to be a place of pilgrimage in Honolulu's lively downtown district for the island's Catholics. Though the Cathedral's surroundings have changed many of the Cathedral's set pieces remain and are still in use. The Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace seeks to provide a serene place of worship for Hawai'i's Catholics while upholding the historical and cultural beauty of the historic building.

CM Dos Santos-Tam and other Councilmembers with the Most Reverend Bishop Larry Silva, Mons. Gary Secor, Kekoa McClellan, Scott Ruppel, and Katey Dallosto.

City Council Participates in Mayor's Remembrance Walk For 9/11 Victims



Mayor Blangiardi, along with members of the City Council, gathered for the annual Mayor's Remembrance Walk for 9/11 victims. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's walk was the first in several years. It brought together Honolulu residents, leaders, fire fighters, and police officers, and also had special guests from the New York City area to march around the Civic Center to mark this occasion.



As a member of the Council's Public Safety Committee, CM Dos Santos-Tam is committed to ensuring that our first responders have the necessary tools to respond to any contingency. In this year's budget, CM Dos Santos-Tam added \$220,000 to help hire more 911 dispatchers to improve response time islandwide.

From left: Councilmembers Val Okimoto, Tyler Dos Santos-Tam, and Matt Weyer at the Mayor's Remembrance Ceremony held in front of Honolulu Hale.

Celebrations during Mid-Autumn Festival Invigorate Chinatown

As part of his goal of revitalizing Honolulu's historic Chinatown district, Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam joined with many kama'āina and visitors for the various celebrations of the Mid-Autumn Festival. In Chinese culture, Mid-Autumn Festival is held on a full moon night to celebrate family togetherness, a bountiful harvest, and to enjoy delicious foods including mooncakes. Over the Mid-Autumn Festival weekend, several events were held: (1) Chinatown808 and the Chinese Chamber of Commerce held a celebration at the Chinatown Cultural Plaza; (2) Autumn Moon & Lantern Festival at Smith-Beretania Park by the Chinatown Improvement District; and (3) the Honolulu Chinese Jaycees, which does a lot of community service work throughout the year, celebrated their 70th anniversary.



CMs Dos Santos-Tam, Cordero, and Say at the Honolulu Chinese Jaycees' 70th anniversary over the Mid-Autumn Festival weekend.

Grand Opening of Cha's Room at Farrington HS to Support Student Success



Cha's Room, an on-campus store at Farrington HS recently opened, with the help of donations from community members. Cha's Room, named after Farrington alumna Cha Thompson, allows students to purchase professional wardrobe items like aloha shirts, blouses, slacks, and shoes for only a few dollars each. The goal is to empower students to feel confident for college or job interviews, and other professional opportunities. Students can also sign up for a personalized "wardrobe consultation" to find clothes that fit their style and goals. For donations, please contact Harris Nakamoto at 808-285-2964 or harris_nakamoto@farringtonhighschool.org.

Local entrepreneur and proud Farrington alumna Cha Thompson, CM Dos Santos-Tam, CM Cordero, and Farrington Community & Business Enterprise Liaison Harris Nakamoto at the grand opening of "Cha's Room."

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Repainting of the Faded Crosswalk at South King Street and Mililani Street

By request of numerous constituents in the Downtown-Chinatown area our office submitted a request for the restriping of the pedestrian crosswalk adjacent to 'Iolani Palace. On any given day, many residents, commuting workers, and tourist frequent this crosswalk. It is a busy street, and high-visibility crosswalk markings with wide, evenly spaced stripes help to grab the attention of the driver to indicate a crosswalk in ahead. My office will also work to request that other crosswalks be repainted; please call my office to let me know of other crosswalks which are in need of repainting.



Above: Before and after the repainting process.

New Feral Chicken Program Goes Live

Feral chicken nuisances are among the top sources of complaints within the City and County of Honolulu. For feral chicken nuisances on privately owned properties, the City is pleased to announce that Sandwich Isle Pest Solutions has been contracted to provide a cage and disposal service to help humanely rid private properties of feral chickens. The City will be funding a portion of the cost to private-property owners to catch and dispose of feral chickens that are creating nuisances in communities Oʻahu. For more information the across on service. visit www.sandwichisle.com, or call (808) 456-7716.



Feral chickens in Booth Park in Pauoa



A flock of feral chickens on a Downtown sidewalk

For feral chicken nuisances on City properties, such as parks, gyms, and other City buildings, please contact Department of Customer Services at complaints@honolulu.gov or call (808) 768-4381. You may also go to the Honolulu 311 webpage or app at https://honoluluhi.citysourced.com or download the Honolulu 311 app to file a report.

For feral chicken nuisances on State properties, you must contact the state agency responsible for the property, such as the Dept of Education for public schools and Dept of Land & Natural Resources for state parks.

Beautification Project Enlivens and Refreshes Smith-Beretania Park



A group of volunteers at the mural's debut at Smith-Beretania Park, including from DAC, the Downtown-Chinatown NB, New Life Church, and the Roosevelt High School Leos Club.

One of the Downtown Art Center's (DAC) ongoing initiatives has been to put art in public places around Honolulu. A recent project that was unveiled on September 30 is the installation of a new mural by veteran Chinatown-based architect and artist Bonhui Uy, and painted by Chinatown artist Sergio Garzon. The piece is one of a series of improvements at the Smith-Beretania Park in Chinatown. The mural designed by Uy was supported by the Downtown-Chinatown Neighborhood Board No.13. Additionally, the Honolulu Chinatown Lions Club gave a donation to

help defray the cost of the mural, and organized a group of "Leo" volunteers from Roosevelt High School to assist. The whimsical mural celebrates the Year of the Rabbit, and is covered by a coating of anti-graffiti paint. It is our hope that further walls in the Downtown-Chinatown area can be treated with the anti-graffiti coating.

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Community Groups Invite You to "WE Are Kalihi Walk" on October 7

To help inspire community solidarity and pride and to help change the narrative about Kalihi, a number of community groups are coming together to a walk called "WE Are Kalihi" on Saturday, October 7, 2023. The walk begins at 11:30 a.m., with groups departing from all of the following locations: KPT Kamehaikana Resource Center, YMCA - Kalihi, and KVIBE - Kōkua Kalihi Valley. Groups will walk from their location to Ka'ewai Elementary School. A resource fair will take place from 12:00-2:00 p.m. in the Ka'ewai Elementary Cafeteria. For questions, please contact Kim Golis-Robello at robello@pacthahawaii.org, or Lorrie Kanno at lorriek@weedandseedhi.org.

Scan here to sign up!



Virtual Town Hall Focused on Law Enforcement October 19



Scan here to register!

CM Dos Santos-Tam is partnering with with Representative Scott Saiki and Senator Sharon Moriwaki to host a **Virtual Town Hall on Law Enforcement** on **Thursday, October 19, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.** Please join in on the discussion concerning updates on public safety, featuring a panel of the top federal, state, and city law enforcement officers in Hawaii. This includes U.S. Attorney, Clare Connors, Attorney General Anne Lopez, Prosecutor Steve Alm, and Police Chief Arthur "Joe" Logan. We are honored to have these important guests participating in our town hall. We will also be holding a Q&A session for any questions the community may have. To register for the event, visit https://saiki.house/101923 or scan the QR code at the left.

Employers and Job Seekers: Mark Your Calendars for Job Fair on Nov 4

The City and County of Honolulu's American Job Center Hawai'i will be hosting a job fair at the Neal Blaisdell Center Exhibition Hall on Saturday, November 4th from 10:00am-3:00pm. Employers are invited to attend to find eager job-seekers, and the fair will also be providing valuable resources, programs, and services to those looking for their next career opportunities. There are no registration fees for employers interested in participating, nor are there fees for job-seekers to attend.



Volunteers Gather Together For the Kauluwela Park Cleanup



CM Dos Santos-Tam paints a basketball pole at the cleanup.

Last month, a group of hardworking volunteers from the Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center, Neighborhood Board members, and families of Lower Liliha residents came to participate in a cleanup of Kauluwela Community Park. They picked up litter and debris and repainted benches and basketball poles. The cleanup was held to commemorate the park's 100th

anniversary, since the land was purchased by the City in the Summer of 1923. The Salvation Army's Adult Rehabilitation Center helps many people across the country, including here in Hawai'i, to connect with social services. The residential-work therapy program lasts 180 days, and provides needed stability and skill development for participants. The program members who came to the cleanup expressed a commitment to make positive change in their lives and the community.



The group of volunteers who gathered to help with a community clean up at Kauluwela Community Park.

Upcoming Peter Buck Mini Park Cleanup on November 12



Peter Buck Mini Park, which is near Bishop Museum on Houghtailing St, will turn 50 years old next month. We invite all residents and neighbors to join CM Dos Santos-Tam on Sunday, November 12 at 9:00AM. To celebrate and to show the park some well-deserved care, CM Dos Santos-Tam's office is organizing a park clean up involving litter pick up, graffiti removal, and scrubbing of 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!

