

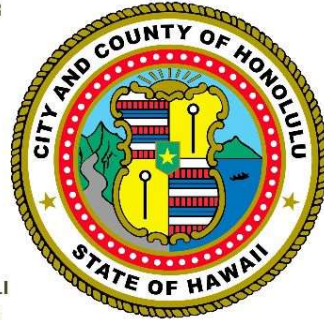
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ESTHER CITY COUNCILMEMBER
DISTRICT 3

KIA'ĀINA

ĀHUIMANU | HE'EIA | HA'IKŪ | KĀNE'OHE | MAUNAWILI
KAILUA | OLOMANA | ENCHANTED LAKE | WAIMĀNALO



August 30, 2021

**Sept. 1 Planning Commission hearing on
short-term rental bill**



Kāne'ohe Airbnb Credit: AirBnB

The Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) is proposing major changes to the short-term rental (STR) ordinance that would not allow any new STRs in residentially zoned districts, but allow STRs in apartment districts adjacent to existing resort areas. The measure seeks to improve enforcement and allocate additional resources to enforce against illegal STRs.

The amendments to Ordinance 19-18 are included in a draft bill that was sent to the Honolulu Planning Commission for consideration. A public hearing will be held on Sept. 1 at 11:30 a.m. For information on the draft bill and how to testify, see www.honolulu.gov/dppstr.

Because a large number of people are expected to testify, the commission has reserved Sept. 3 and 8 to continue hearing testimony, if necessary. The public is encouraged to submit written testimony or testify remotely because of limits on gathering.

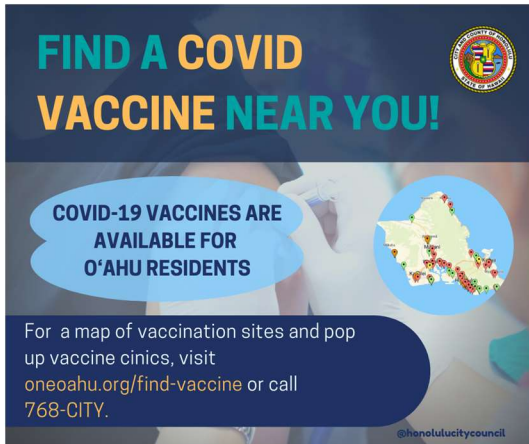
Once the hearing is closed, the commission will make a recommendation to the City Council, which will hold additional hearings before acting on the measure.

Some of the highlights of the bill:

- STRs with nonconforming use certificates (NUC), STRs in the resort district, and STRs in the Waikīkī special district precinct would be allowed to continue
- No new STRs would be permitted in residentially zoned districts
- New STRs would be allowed in areas adjacent to and associated with certain existing resorts in apartment zoned districts
- All STRs would have to register with the city, and the certificate of registration number or their NUC number will be required in advertisements
- All newly registered and existing NUC transient vacation units (TVU) would be assessed at the hotel and resort rate for real property purposes. All newly registered and existing NUC B&Bs will be assessed at the B&B rate for real property purposes.
- The DPP's enforcement procedures would be overhauled to better equip inspectors to investigate and enforce violations of the Land Use Ordinance, including provision related to STRs
- The DPP would receive proceeds from the STR fines and a portion of the resort and B&B property tax to be used specifically for STR enforcement

My staff and I are reviewing the measure. We look forward to hearing from the community.

**Surge in COVID-19 Cases
Reaches Record Highs**



Surge in Cases

On August 29, Hawai'i has surpassed 10,000 active COVID-19 cases and a record high one-day case count. 10,817 cases were documented in the last 14 days, including 1,678 yesterday.

“This tidal wave of cases is straining our ability to respond at all levels—our hospitals, our labs and even our morgues are nearing or at capacity,” said Health Director Dr. Elizabeth Char. “We have not yet reached the peak of this surge, and we will not until Hawai'i residents take further steps to protect themselves and their families.”

Large Gatherings Banned

Last week Honolulu Mayor Blangiardi announced that all large organized gatherings on O’ahu will be suspended, effective Wednesday, Aug. 25. The suspension will be in place for 28 days through Wednesday, Sept. 22, and may be extended based on current conditions and impacts to the medical providers. The decision was made because case counts are up dramatically, as are hospitalizations and need for acute care, and healthcare workers especially are being pushed beyond their limits. To view the Mayor Blangiardi’s amended order and proclamation please visit: <http://www.honolulu.gov/mayor/proclamations-orders-and-rules.html>

O’ahu residents are encouraged to visit <https://www.oneoahu.org/reopening-strategy> for more information. If they do not find what they are looking for on the website, the City’s COVID-19 information call center remains open every day from

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except on holidays. People can call the 768-CITY (2489) information hotline or email covidresponse@honolulu.gov.

I am currently working with the Administration and the Office of Economic Revitalization to help those businesses impacted by this ban.

City Council calls for increased testing and isolation and quarantine facilities, pre-testing travel requirements, and vaccine passports

In light of the increased COVID-19 cases resulting from the delta variant, Council Chair Tommy Waters and I have co-introduced several measures to call for increased testing and isolation and quarantine facilities, pre-testing travel requirements, and vaccine passports. Last week we passed the measures on testing and isolation and quarantine facilities listed below out of the Committee on Transportation, Sustainability, and Health. On Thursday, Sept. 2, we will be holding a Special Meeting at 10:30 a.m. on pre-travel testing and vaccine passports. To view or sign up to testify, please click the following [link](#).

- [Resolution 21-187, Urging the City Administration to Act Quickly to Reopen COVID-19 Testing Sites and Establish Additional Sites to Expand Testing Capacity](#)
- [Resolution 21-189, Urging the City Administration to Reopen and Expand COVID-19 Isolation and Quarantine Facilities](#)
- [Resolution 21-193, Urging the Governor to Reinstate Pre-Travel COVID-19 Testing for Domestic and International Travelers to Hawaii Regardless of their Vaccination Status](#)
- [Resolution 21-194, Urging the City Administration and the State of Hawaii to Implement a COVID-19 Health Card for Establishments at Higher Risk of Transmission of COVID-19](#)

Nāoneala‘a a Kāne‘ohe



What a beautiful day and dedication ceremony for Nāoneala‘a a Kāne‘ohe (The sands of La‘amaikahiki), formerly known as Kāne‘ohe Beach Park. On July 30, we honored Clement Naea Kāna‘e, who was an integral part of the community and the driving force to make this project happen. Mahalo to the Ko‘olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club, the Ko‘olau Foundation, the Kāna‘e ‘ohana (pictured here), the Kāne‘ohe Neighborhood Board, and the City’s Department of Parks and Recreation on all of their efforts and kokua on making the renaming of the park a reality - a truly historical occasion to remember.

Community Profile: Congratulations Pahonu Coleman and Bronson Azama



Bronson Azama, Councilmember Kia'āina, and Pahonu Coleman after swearing in ceremony.

Two Youth Commissioners hailing from the Windward Side – Pahonu Coleman and Bronson Azama - were sworn in by Mayor Blangiardi on August 24th.

Approved by the voters in 2020, the Honolulu Youth Commission, comprised of 15 members, will serve to provide youth on O'ahu with a voice and presence in local government. The commission shall advise the council and mayor on the effects of policies, needs, assessments, priorities, programs and budgets concerning the children and youth of the city. Six commissioners were chosen by the Mayor and 9

were chosen from each City Council District and were selected by their City Councilmember.

Pahonu Coleman from Waimānalo was selected by me to represent Council District 3. The youngest applicant to apply to represent our Windward community, Pahonu will be a sophomore at Kailua High School. In Pahonu's own words: "I learned how working together can achieve good change. I am a servant of the land. I believe that human decisions that directly impact our environment shall be the most youth involved discussions because we are the future decisions. The decisions we are making now about 'āina should include the youth perspective since we are the beneficiaries of those decisions."

Bronson Azama from Kāneʻohe was selected by Mayor Blangiardi. A graduate of Castle High School, he is active with the Koʻolaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club and was a former State President for the Future Farmers of America. On why he wanted to be on the commission, Bronson stated "I applied to the Commission to ensure that this platform is utilized not as a special group that represents an entire generation, but an open door that can educate our peers on how they can represent themselves. How can we cultivate a generation where civic engagement is the new norm?"

Congratulations to Pahonu and Bronson and their 'Ohana!

Update on the Hawai'i's Tourism Authority's O'ahu Destination Management Action Plan



On August 24, the Committee on Housing and the Economy, which I chair, focused on many topics, including the Hawai'i Tourism Authority's O'ahu Destination Management Action Plan (DMAP), which was approved by its Board on July 29.

To review HTA's presentations, please see the links below:

- [Hawai'i Tourism Authority's Presentation on Draft O'ahu DMAP](#)
- [HTA's Power Point Presentation of its O'ahu DMAP](#)
- [HTA's O'ahu DMAP Summary, including five District 3 hotspots](#)

Other presentations at the hearing included:

- [Affordable Housing Update by the City's Office of Housing](#)
 - [Update by the Department of Permitting and Planning on Memorandums of Understanding and Agreement between the City and Expedia and AirBnB, which went into effect on November 18, 2020](#)
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Update on the Ban of Commercial Activities at Beach Parks on the Windward Side



Hūnānāniho, Waimānalo

During the pandemic, our communities experienced an unusual reprieve from the overcrowding and other negative impacts of Hawai'i's tourism industry. I am committed to working with my colleagues to reimagine how we can build a stronger more sustainable Hawai'i economy while also prioritizing the quality of life for our people. In response to constituent concerns about commercial activities at city parks in Waimānalo, I have been working diligently with our Office of Counsel Services to build upon the work put into Bill 92, which was introduced by my predecessor in 2020. I anticipate introducing a bill that would prohibit all commercial activities, including all recreational stops at Waimānalo Beach Park, Hūnānāniho, Kaiona Beach park, Kaupō Beach Park, Makapu'u Beach park & Bellows Field Beach Park with an exception for permitted commercial filming activities; as well as at City owned or operated beach rights of ways and

easements from Makapu'u Point to and including Hūnānāniho, including the Hūnānāniho access gate on 'Ālo'ilo'i street.

As many know, the issue of commercial activities is complex and I hope to partner with the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) and the Department of Parks and Recreation to determine how we can ensure appropriate enforcement and collaborate with the state's Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and our state lawmakers to determine if additional state action is needed to address concerns in Waimānalo and Kailua.

HECO Seeking Input on Future Public Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations



The graphic features a dark blue background with a white outline of the Hawaiian Islands on the right. On the left is a white icon of an electric vehicle charging station with a lightning bolt and a charging cable. In the top right corner is a white geometric pattern of diamonds. At the bottom left is the hashtag #ChargeUpHI. At the bottom right is a circular logo with a white pin icon and the text 'DROP A PIN TO WIN' around it.

Let Hawaiian Electric know where you'd like to see additional EV charging stations in your community

#ChargeUpHI

DROP A PIN TO WIN

Hawaiian Electric is seeking community input on the locations of future public electric vehicle (EV) charging stations to make sure electrified transportation can be a service to all.

Over 15,000 passenger EVs are registered in the state with 78% of EVs registered on O'ahu. The numbers of EVs on Hawai'i roads will continue to increase as [the Federal government focuses on zero emission vehicle initiatives](#) and [more EV models become available](#). To ensure future EV users have dependable charging

solutions, it is estimated that by 2030 there will be a need for 3,600 public EV charging stations at workplaces, shopping centers, parks, and multi-unit dwellings.

Hawaiian Electric recently launched Charge Up Hawaii which will be collecting input from the community through the end of September via its Charge Up Hawaii interactive map. They are asking the community to tell them about your transportation needs and encourage you and your constituents to drop pins on their [interactive map](#) to let them know where you want to see EV charging stations in the future.

Community Outreach



Anton Krucky, Executive Director for the City's Office of Housing joined me on a site visit with Aunty Blanche McMillan in Waimānalo to discuss homelessness

One of the most important jobs as your Councilmember is to make sure that you are able to reach me with your inquiries or to share your concerns. You can either email me at ekiaaina@honolulu.gov or call me at (808) 768-5003. You may also want to follow me on my [Facebook page](#).

If you want to contact City agencies directly, you can also utilize the City's 311 mobile application, which provides a free, simple, and intuitive platform empowering people to report potholes, broken streetlights, cracked sidewalks, illegal dumping, vandalized/broken signs and more via your smartphone. Please note that this app serves as a tool for residents to request City services and report non-emergency issues, which will then be reviewed by the appropriate City department and assigned. You can also access this service through the City's website [here](#).

You can also call the City's information hotline at: (808) 768-CITY (2489).



Honolulu 311 App

The official citizen application for Honolulu, HI

Honolulu 311 is the official mobile application for the City & County of Honolulu, Hawai'i. Honolulu 311 provides a free, simple, and intuitive platform empowering people to report potholes, broken streetlights, cracked sidewalks, illegally dumping, vandalized/broken signs and more via your smartphone.

Types of Issues to Report:

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Abandoned Property | Parking Issues |
| Broken/Vandalized Signs | Parking Meter Broken/Missing |
| Broken Street Lights | Stored Property Violation |
| Clogged Catch Basin | Storm Water Pollution |
| Construction Runoff | Stream Maintenance |
| Drug Activity | Submit a Crime Tip |
| Flooding | Taxi Complaints |
| Gamehouses/Gambling | Traffic Infractions |
| Gang Activity | Tree or Plant Maintenance |
| Graffiti | Other |
| Homeless Concerns | |
| Illegal Dump Site | |
| Noise | |

How to File a Report

1) Download Honolulu 311 from Google Play or Apple App Store

2) Create an Account

3) Submit a Request and Attach a Photo

***You have the option to remain anonymous**



Submit your request.

Request a Service, Report an Issue, and Help Improve your Community

Once submitted, your request is reviewed by the appropriate City Department and the work is assigned or scheduled.

Estimated times to complete vary by request

If you sign up for an account, the City will send you updates as work is completed on your request.

Honolulu City Council Communications Office

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Councilmember Esther Kia'āina, District 3

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