

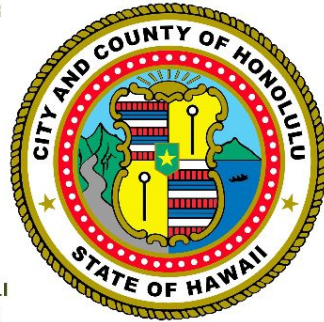
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**ESTHER** CITY COUNCILMEMBER  
DISTRICT 3

**KIA'ĀINA**

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



**January 31, 2024**

**Honoring Officer Jarret Atkins and the  
District 4 Community Policing Team**



*Councilmember Kia 'āina presented an Honorary Certificate to Kailua's Officer Jarret Atkins, who was named the 2023 Honolulu Police Week Officer of the Year, and is a member of the District 4 Community Policing Team.*

*Pictured with Councilmember Kia 'āina is the District 4 Community Policing Team (left to right), Sergeant Justin Aiu, Officers Robert Lewis, Keoni Bryant, Jarret Atkins, Bernie Carlite, Jimmy Vannising, and Lieutenant Kris Kiyabu.*

I would like to take this opportunity to mahalo the District 4 Community Policing Team (CPT), and highlight the important role they play in our community. When residents contact my office to express concerns regarding public safety, I have found the District 4 CPT to be extremely responsive, knowledgeable and solution oriented. In addition to responding to resident concerns and attending neighborhood board meetings, the District 4 CPT also provides and organizes additional services, including:

- Keiki and Kupuna Identification Programs
- “Say Hi” Program
- Community Traffic Awareness Program (CTAP) Sign waving
- Personal Safety/Stranger Danger/Cyber
- Bullying/Senior/Children/Home Presentations
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Traffic/Active Shooter Presentations
- Career Day/School/Community Fun Fairs
- National Night Out
- District 4 Station Tours

Due to their large geographical responsibilities and successes in the community, I will be seeking during the City's upcoming FY 2025 budget, to increase their current staffing from 5 to 9 positions, which was their staffing level pre-pandemic. The District 4 CPT is the largest patrol area in the City and County of Honolulu, which extends from Waimānalo to Kahuku.

For more information, please click [here](#) or call (808)723-8874.

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# Ka‘elepulu Storm Drainage Improvements



The improvement of stormwater quality in the Ka‘elepulu Watershed continues to be a priority for me. For FY 2024, the Council approved my inclusion of another \$2 million in Capital Improvement Project funding, to plan, design, construct, and inspect storm drainage for best management practices in the vicinity of Ka‘elepulu Pond. This is in addition to previous funding secured, but was not fully spent in time.

The City’s Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM) Ka‘elepulu storm drainage improvements include a biofiltration curb extension and hydrodynamic separator to assist with better filtration of stormwater drainage along Akiohala Street in Kailua. These additions, which will be installed along the drainage line that takes stormwater runoff from Keolu Hills into the watershed, will help improve stormwater quality in the

area. The project is currently in its design stages, with project construction set to begin in 2025.

Members from DFM and the City's design contractor will provide an update on the project during the next [Kailua Neighborhood Board meeting on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>](#). The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. and will be held in person at the Kailua District Park Pavilion, and virtual attendance is provided with [Webex](#).

For updates on the status of this project and the general status of the watershed, the City has created a website at [www.kaelepulustormwater.org](http://www.kaelepulustormwater.org). DFM is interested in your mana'o. For any comments or concerns, you can contact them via email at [cleanwater@honolulu.gov](mailto:cleanwater@honolulu.gov).

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## **Supporting the Nomination of Kāne'ohe's Elena Bryant to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission**



The Council recently passed on first reading [Resolution 23-305](#), which would appoint Elena Bryant of Kāneʻohe, to the Honolulu Planning Commission.

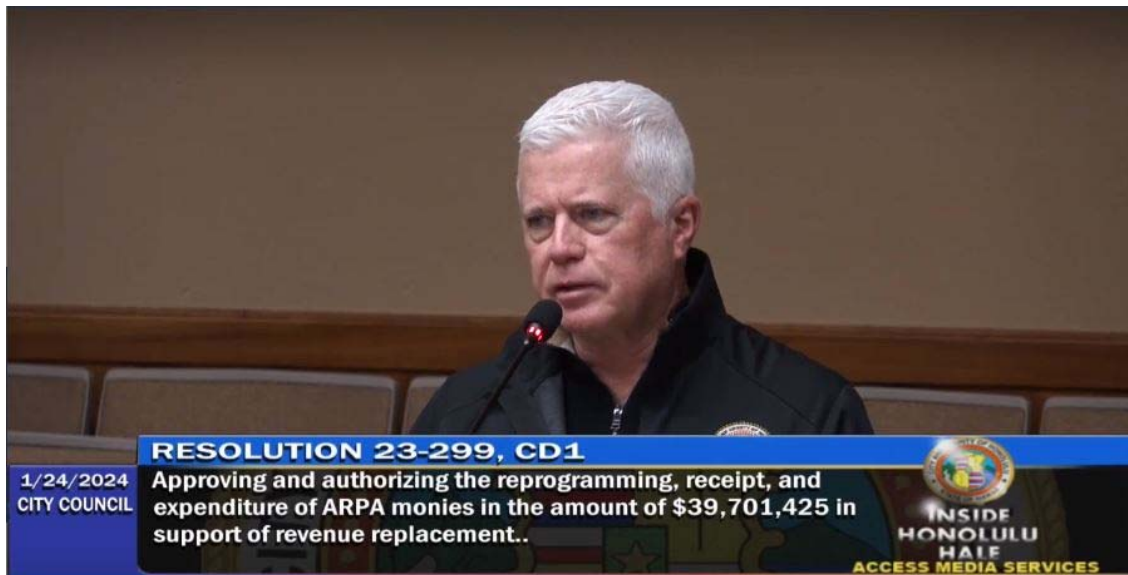
In addition to advising the Mayor and City Council in City planning matters, the Honolulu Planning Commission also reviews amendments to the general plan and various development plans. The commission was recently tasked with reviewing the [Primary Urban Center Development Plan](#) and approving the next location for Oʻahuʻs next landfill, with Waimānaloʻs Bellows Air Force Base suggested as one of the six proposed locations. See related news article [here](#).

I am excited for Elena to join the Planning Commission, fulfilling the requirement for at least one member to have substantial experience or expertise in Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, Native Hawaiian law, or traditional Hawaiian land usage. Elena brings a wealth of experience in these areas. Raised primarily in Kāneʻohe & Kahaluʻu, Elena is a graduate of Kamehameha Schools with a bachelorʻs degree in Hawaiian Studies from the University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa, and is a 2011 graduate of the University of Hawaiʻi William S. Richardson School of Law, where she worked as a tutor, and later as a fellow, at the Ka Huli Ao Center for Excellence in Native Hawaiian Law. Elena currently works as an attorney with Earthjustice, where she works on complex Native Hawaiian and environmental legal issues in state and federal courts.

I look forward to hearing her nomination during the Planning & the Economy committee, which I chair, on February 8, 2024.

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**Legislative Update**



- [Resolution 23-299, CD1](#) - **Hazard pay for eligible City employees:** I strongly support compensating our City workers for their contributions during the COVID-19 pandemic which ensured essential city services continued and helped to keep our communities safe. Negotiations have begun between the City Administration with City employees and the Council took an important step on January 24, 2024, to ensure the City has funds to support hazard payments by adopting Resolution 23-299. The measure reprograms nearly \$40 million from tranche 2 of the American Rescue Plan Act to support negotiations. This is in addition to \$40 million already reprogrammed from tranche 1 of ARPA funds to support potential hazard pay.
- [Resolution 23-308, CD1, FD1](#) - **Affirming the City’s kuleana in invasive species control:** In response to the kāhea of community members for action and support to combat invasive species, I introduced Resolution 23-308, CD1, FD1 with Councilmember Matt Weyer, to urge the City Administration to advance their efforts in invasive species prevention and control. The measure recognizes the adverse impacts that various invasive species, including the coconut rhinoceros beetle, coqui frog, and little fire ant, have on our island ecosystems. It calls for a City report, which will inform the Council on:
  - The City’s current and planned efforts related to invasive species control

- The City departments that manage, work on, or affect the land in a way that may contribute to the spread or prevention and control of invasive species
- The currently implemented and planned best management practices related to invasive species; and
- The City's recommendations to provide its support to the O'ahu Invasive Species Committee and other entities working to prevent, detect, and control Invasive species on O'ahu

We had a productive discussion with community members and organizations dedicated to invasive species awareness, as well as the City Administration, who shared the work they are doing and can do to enhance the City's efforts on invasive species management. I am pleased that we are already seeing real action by the City's Department of Parks and Recreation, including the identification of potential City property on the Windward side to house the O'ahu Invasive Species Committee, a critical partner in invasive species management.

- [Bill 64, FD1 \(2023\)](#) - **Updating the Use Provisions of the Land Use Ordinance:** the Planning and the Economy Committee, which I chair, will be considering amendments to Bill 64 (2023), FD1, formerly Bill 10 (2022), at its February 8, 2024 meeting. I will be prioritizing amendments on residential uses, which include Household Living (Single unit dwelling, Duplex-unit dwelling, Two-unit dwelling, Multi-unit dwelling), Group Living (small group living, large group living), and Accessory Residential (ADUs, Home occupation, 'ohana unit, and rooming). The LUO determines what districts these uses are allowed in and any standards or criteria that have to be met in order to allow these uses. The bill is quite long, so for specific page numbers related to residential uses, please look for details in the P&E agenda [here](#). You can also find relevant information at the City Council's Bill 64 website [here](#).
- [Resolution 23-271](#) – **Decreasing the Speed Limit:** The Council passed Resolution 23-271 on December 6, 2023, which encourages the State legislature to pass a state law that would allow the City to lower speed limits on City streets without conducting an engineering study. I look forward to engaging

with legislators this legislative session and if it passes, I will work with the City Department of Transportation Services to assess whether maximum speed limits impacting residential neighborhoods on the Windward side should be lowered from 25 miles per hour to 15 miles per hour to address concerns over speeding.

- [Bill 59, CD1 \(2023\)](#) - **Tax incentives for Film Industry Development on O‘ahu:** This measure passed second reading at the January 24th full Council meeting, and proposes real property tax incentives for film studios that invest at least \$100 million in property improvements and provide 50 or more new job opportunities within their industry. These incentives encourage film studios to provide more stages and studio facilities on the island, possibly in Kapolei and the west side, which would expand the TV and Film industry’s presence on O‘ahu. To be an eligible facility, studio owners must be able to promote economic expansion of the film industry through incentives such as use of their studios and discounts for local filmmakers engaged in the development of film or digital products relating to Hawaiian and local culture, history, traditions, or customs, and promote workforce development within the industry, through the creation of internship programs for students in colleges, universities, and vocational schools that are focused on film and media studies.

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## **Kāne‘ohe Rehabilitation of Streets - Upcoming Projects**





A number of Kāneʻohe residents have reached out to my office to share concerns regarding the conditions of our city streets and I am happy to share an update for some of Kāneʻohe's heavily utilized areas that the City is repaving under the City's Rehabilitation of Streets program. The Rehabilitation of Streets Program, which is funded by the City's CIP (Capital Improvement Project) budget, seeks to restore selected streets and roadways to improve the riding quality and structural integrity while also eliminating potential hazards.

Kamehameha Highway from Heʻeia Kea pier to the bridge at Heʻeia Stream has been identified for repaving under the Rehabilitation of Streets Unit 73C project. This project is currently in the planning phase.

Kamehameha Highway from Hāʻiku Road to Likelike Highway will be repaved under the Rehabilitation of Streets Unit 73A project. This project also includes resurfacing for Keaʻahala Road, from Kamehameha Highway to Kamau Place, and advertised for bids in December 2023. Construction will start after the award process and once the contractor obtains the necessary permits and approvals of submittals.

Kamehameha Highway from the bridge at He‘eia Stream to Haiku Road was repaved under the Rehabilitation of Streets Unit 73B project, and paving was completed in 2020.

Kamehameha Highway from Likelike Highway to Pali Highway, and Kea‘ahala Road, from Kahekili Highway to Po‘okela Street, are within the jurisdiction of the State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation (DOT), Highways Division. Please contact the State DOT at (808) 831-6714 or [complainthighwayoahu@hawaii.gov](mailto:complainthighwayoahu@hawaii.gov) to share concerns regarding the conditions of these portions of roads.

For pothole repairs and lane restriping on city roads, please contact [DFMroads@honolulu.gov](mailto:DFMroads@honolulu.gov).

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## Update on the O‘ahu Pedestrian Plan in District 3

On January 9, 2024 the City’s Department of Transportation Services, of which I am a member, provided an [update](#) on the status of actions identified in the [O‘ahu Pedestrian Plan](#), which is administered by the Honolulu Complete Streets program, and is centered around pedestrian safety and the principle that “everyone should be able to walk in their community without fear.”

Forty-five projects of the plan are in District 3, which serves Waimānalo, Kailua, and Kāne‘ohe. Some of the upcoming safety improvements include a rapid-flashing signal to warn drivers of crossing pedestrians on Kamehameha Highway/Pāhia Road in Kāne‘ohe, as well as walkway improvement projects on Kailua Road, Kalaheo Avenue, and Kuulei Road.

The projects are as follows:

### WAIMĀNALO

WALKWAY IMPROVEMENTS		
<u>Project ID:</u>	<u>Street Name:</u>	<u>Extents:</u>
2-28	Hihimanu St/Poalima St	Lukanela St-Ahiki St.

### KĀNE'ŌHE

WALKWAY IMPROVEMENTS		
<u>Project ID:</u>	<u>Street Name:</u>	<u>Extents:</u>
1-19	Keaahala Rd	Kahekili Hwy - Kamehameha Hwy
2-7	Anoi Rd	Likelike Hwy-North End
2-45	Kamehameha Hwy	Imiloa St-Halaulani St
2-57	Kulauli St	Puohala St - Puohala Elementary School
2-71	Mokulele Dr	Kaneohe Bay Dr - Namoku St.
2-85	Paleka Rd	Paleka Pl-Luana Pl
2-97	Waikalua Rd	Kamehameha Hwy - End
2-103	William Henry rd	Kamehameha Hwy - Waialele Rd
3-15	Kaneke St	Kapunahala Rd - Anoi Rd
3-18	KuluKeoe St	Kahekili Hwy - Keneke St
3-27	Puohala St	Pua Inia St- Kaneohe Bay Dr.
WALKWAY UPGRADES		
<u>Project ID:</u>	<u>Street Name:</u>	<u>Extents:</u>
U-10	Kamehameha Hwy	Haiku Rd-Halaulani St
U-11	Kamehameha Hwy	Kaneohe Bay Dr-Waikalua Rd

## KAILUA

WALKWAY IMPROVEMENTS		
<u>Project ID:</u>	<u>Street Name:</u>	<u>Extents:</u>
1-14	Kailua Rd	Hahani St - Wanaao Rd
1-23	Kuulei Rd	Maluniu Ave - Kainalu Dr
1-24	Kuulei Rd	Kainalu Dr - Kalaheo Ave
1-10	Hamakua Dr	Kailua Rd-Hekili St
2-3	Akamai St	Nanawale PI-Keolu Dr.
2-39	Kailua Rd	Kalaheo Ave- Wanaao Rd
2-40	Kainalu Dr	Ohana St-Kailua Rd.
2-41	Kainui Dr	Oneawa St. - Kalaheo Ave.
2-47	Kaneohe Bay Dr	Molo St - Halia St
2-48	Kaneohe Bay Dr	Iliihau St- Mokapu Blvd
2-50	Kawailoa Rd	Popoia PI - Alala Rd
2-65	Maluniu Ave	Kawainui St-Uluniu St
2-69	Mokapu Rd	Nunu St-Kaneohe Bay Dr.
2-72	N Kalaheo Ave	Mokapu Blvd - Kainui Dr.
2-73	N Kalaheo Ave	Kainui Dr-Omao St
2-74	N Kalaheo Ave	Omao St - Kuulei Rd
2-81	Oneawa St	Kainui Dr-Kawainui St
2-94	S Kalaheo Ave	Kuulei Rd- Kailua Rd
3-6	Auloa Rd	Kalanianaole Hwy - Lunaai St
3-10	Iliihau St/Aikahi Lp	Kaneohe Bay Dr - Mokapu Rd
3-12	Kaha St	Oneawa St- Kainalua Dr
3-13	Kaiholu St	Kainui Dr - Kalaheo Ave
3-14	Kainalu Dr	Kainui Dr - Kalama St
3-16	Kaneohe Bay Dr	Malae PI - Kuono PI
3-21	Maunawili Rd	Auloa Rd-Maunawili Lp
3-22	Mokulua Dr	Kaneapu PI - Alaapapa Dr
3-28	Ulupii St	Ulumanu Dr-Kalanianaole Hwy
3-29	Ulupii St/Uluhaka St	Ulupuni St-Kalanianaole Hwy
WALKWAY UPGRADES		
<u>Project ID:</u>	<u>Street Name:</u>	<u>Extents:</u>
U-3	Alala Rd	Kawailoa Rd-Mokulua Dr
U-9	Kailua Rd	Kailua-Rd-S Kalaheo Ave
U-14	Kuulei Rd	Aulike St-Maluniu Ave

To learn more about the status of any of these projects please contact

[completestreets@honolulu.gov](mailto:completestreets@honolulu.gov) or visit their website at:

<https://www.honolulu.gov/completestreets>

## Kalapawai Roundabout Update: Phase 4A

### PHASE 4 PROJECT MAP



Phase 4A of 9 phases of the Kalapawai Roundabout Project started on January 8, 2024. The Department of Transportation Services is anticipating Phase 4A to be completed on March 21, 2024, weather permitting. Phase 4A will include a 24/7 closure of mauka bound lanes from the Kailua Beach Center to Aumoe Street. The beach center and roundabout will remain open, however motorists need to use Ku‘ulei Road as a way to get back into Kailua Town.

After the completion of Phase 4A, Phase 4B will begin, and is anticipated to go from

March to May 2024 (pending weather and any unforeseen issues). Phase 4B will include work to the middle driveway of the Kailua Beach Center. To alleviate flooding in the area, a drainage box will be installed, which will require a deep excavation. Both the first and last driveways of the Kailua Beach Center, as well as the roundabout will be open during Phase 4B.

The overall project is slated to be completed by the end of this year. For more information, please visit the [project website](#). Also, please feel free to share your questions or concerns by visiting <https://www.kalapawaiproject.com/contact>, or by email at [Kelly.akasaki@honolulu.gov](mailto:Kelly.akasaki@honolulu.gov). You can also contact the contractor, Mathos Engineering, at (808) 518-1853.

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## Understanding Local and Indigenous Farm Production

# Place-Based Equity for Hawai'i's Local Producers

Farmers, Ranchers, Mahi'ai, & Paniolo

**TAKE THIS SURVEY**

to improve access to supportive ag resources

Scan the QR code or click the  
link in my bio to take the survey  
@des.api



**Destiny Apilado**  
Ag policy researcher aims to  
make farming in Hawai'i  
practical and sustainable.



[destinyapilado.weebly.com/hawaii\\_producers.html](https://destinyapilado.weebly.com/hawaii_producers.html)

Are you a local, Native Hawaiian farmer providing small scale produce to your community? Destiny Apilado, a current student in the Environmental Management master's program at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, is conducting a survey to understand how underinvested agricultural producers manage to produce their crops. Data collected from the survey will be used to identify the challenges local farmers face in accessing support and help to develop actionable policy recommendations that can dissolve barriers to these farmers. You may access the survey [here](#), and if you have any questions, you can contact Destiny [here](#).

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# Community Outreach and Constituent Concerns



*Homeless encampments at Kailua Beach Park have become a serious concern for residents. Mahalo to HPD's Community Policing Team and Department of Parks and Recreation and Institute for Human Services officials for meeting with me at the park recently to discuss enforcement solutions, including proposing park closure hours from 10:00 pm to 5:00 am, while ensuring access to the beach, fishing, and traditional and customary practices are not impeded.*

One of the most important jobs as your Councilmember is to make sure that you are able to reach me with your inquiries, identify issues, or to share your concerns. You can also invite me to community events.

Please contact my office at (808) 768-5003 or by email at [ekiaaina@honolulu.gov](mailto:ekiaaina@honolulu.gov). You may also want to follow me on my [Facebook page](#) or visit my [website](#).



To contact the City Administration directly, you can utilize the City's 311 mobile application. It can be downloaded on the [Apple app store](#), 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](#), or call the City's information hotline at: (808) 768-CITY (2489).

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**Councilmember Esther Kia'āina, District 3**

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