



HONOLULU HALE

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ALOHA FROM COUNCIL CHAIR WATERS

I was honored to participate in a lively panel discussion on Thursday, Jan. 18, following the premiere of the independent film, Reunite US, a documentary about the passage of Council Bill 40 which passed in 2019, banning single-use plastics on O’ahu.

Each panelist was a distinguished environmental expert and advocate who played a key role in passing this historic legislation. So, I left the finer points about the environment and the harmful long-term effects of plastics for them to discuss. When it was my turn to speak, I simply gave a big mahalo to everyone in the audience for getting involved, and for making their voice heard to me, the Council and every other lawmaker who, like them, believes so passionately in protecting our ‘āina.

As an island state, we face challenges that few other states in the U.S. need to grapple with. One notable challenge is how we dispose of our waste, particularly on Oahu, where nearly 72% of Hawai’i’s population lives, we have growing challenges as it relates to where we store our trash. Single use plastics not only add to this problem, their remnants find their way into our lands and oceans. I urge you to find out more how you can participate in the political process, contact me if you have questions or concerns, testify on bills and resolutions that matter to you, and be a part of the change you want see in city government.



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LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

Reso 24-12, CD1 - Urges the City's first responder agencies to explore and develop communications solutions that respect their operational needs while ensuring that the media and the public receive timely and accurate information during critical and emergency situations.

Public safety is of the utmost importance to me and the Council. My hope is that we can all take a common-sense approach to reviewing our processes, and update them via the most efficient methods of communication, to provide transparency to the public, particularly in emergency situations where safety could be compromised, or lives could potentially be at risk. We have to do better for our loved ones and our community. I believe that the media plays a critical and essential role in informing the public about situations that could impact the safety of our residents.

In the past, the Council has considered a resolution urging the City's first responder agencies to restore the media's access, so it may amplify public information efforts during emergencies. The resolution that has been adopted recognizes the media's vital role in communicating to the public during emergency situations. Obviously, more conversation on the specifics of that access needs to happen, but we certainly want to work with them on improving their procedures without compromising their ability to safely resolve incidents.

Reso 23-299, CD1 - Outlines the reprogramming of the American Rescue Plan Act's (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) to be used in support of revenue replacement, with a focus on ensuring that City employees who performed essential services during the pandemic are compensated.

Reso 23-162, CD1 - Initiates the process to amend the City Charter and establish a Climate Resiliency Fund. The amendment would deposit 0.5% of the City's annual real property tax revenues into the fund (not a new tax) and be used to enhance resiliency and finance preventive, ameliorative, and educational efforts city-wide.

Reso 23-308, CD1 - Recognizes the important role that our City and all of the counties of Hawai'i have in invasive species control efforts, and urges the City Administration to collaboratively advance those efforts in collaboration with state and federal agencies.

Reso 24-9, CD1 - Authorizes exemptions from certain City application fees, infrastructure or public works fees and charges, and development standards for the Pāhoia Ridge affordable housing project to be located on Wai'ala'e Avenue near the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.



Discussing media transparency with KHON2 news

BILLS PASSED

Bill 40 (2023), CD1 - Seeks to alleviate the negative economic impacts on small businesses caused by the construction of the rail project. Bill 40 would update the allowable uses of the Transit Construction Mitigation Fund, amend the eligibility requirements for businesses seeking assistance, and add a community outreach component to the program.

Bill 61 (2023), CD1 - Amends the register of exceptional trees in Honolulu. "Exceptional Trees" is defined under Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 58 (Act 105, Session Laws of Hawaii 1975) as a tree or stand or grove of trees with historic or cultural value, or which by reason of its age, rarity, location, size, esthetic quality, or endemic status has been designated by the county committee as worthy of preservation. The ordinance includes provisions for updating the register and further specifies which trees should be added or amended.

APPOINTMENTS

Resolution 23-288 (2023), CD1 - Relating to the Council's reappointment of Jason Kekahi "Kahi" Pacarro to serve on the Clean Water and Natural Lands Advisory Commission of the City and County of Honolulu.

DISTRICT 4 PROJECTS (CONT.)

BWS EAST HONOLULU WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN, FINAL DRAFT REVIEW SUMMARY

Purpose, Goals & Objectives - The Board of Water Supply (BWS) and Dept. of Planning and Permitting (DPP) completed the East Honolulu Watershed Management Plan (EHWMP). Each regional Development Plans (DP) and Sustainable Communities Plans (SCP) is intended to help guide public policy, investment, and decision making over the next 20 years.

Goal - To formulate an environmentally holistic, community-based, and economically viable watershed management plan that will provide a balance between: (1) the preservation and restoration of Oahu’s watersheds, and (2) sustainable ground water and surface water use and development to serve present and future generations.

The five major objectives which are common to all of the WMPs for O’ahu are:

- OBJECTIVE #1: Promote Sustainable Watersheds
- OBJECTIVE #2: Protect And Enhance Water Quality and Quantity
- OBJECTIVE #3: Protect Native Hawaiian Rights and Traditional and Customary Practices
- OBJECTIVE #4: Facilitate Public Participation and Education, and Project Implementation
- OBJECTIVE #5: Meet Future Water Demands at Reasonable Cost

Physical Setting & Political Boundaries - In total, the district has ten named watersheds: Wai’alae Nui, Wailupe, Niu, Kuli’ou’ou, Haha’ione, Kamilo Nui, Kamilo Iki, Portlock, Hanauma, and Koko Crater. According to the 2011 Rainfall Atlas of Hawai’i, the coastal plains of East Honolulu experiences less than 30 inches of annual rainfall, while the upper reaches of the Ko’olau Mountains in East Honolulu experience more than 80 inches of annual rainfall.

Socio-economic Conditions - According to the U.S. Census, the population in the East Honolulu District was 50,922 people in 2020. The district’s total population increased by 15.5% between 1980 and 2010, yet between 2010 and 2020 its population was relatively stable. East Honolulu’s population is expected to remain stable at 50,000 over the next 20 years. The residents of East Honolulu are generally older than the residents of O’ahu as a whole. A large percentage of East Honolulu residents identify as Asian (47.6%) and white (25.3%). Only 3.4% of East Honolulu residents identify as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander. East Honolulu’s annual median household income (in 2021 dollars) is \$139,041 significantly higher than the island’s median household income of \$92,600.

Existing & Future Water Demand - BWS meets approximately 96% of the district’s total water demand. Based on 2010 data, East Honolulu’s per capita water demand is 194 gallons per person per day (GPCD). This is 25% higher than the island-wide average of 155 GPCD, due to the district’s land use and socio-economic characteristics. With regard to water availability, compared to other areas of O’ahu, the East Honolulu planning district has limited ground water resources. Nearly 85% of the district’s potable groundwater is supplied by water transferred from BWS’s Honolulu and Windward water systems.

2040 Water Demand and Supply - To project East Honolulu’s water demand in 2040, the project team developed water demand scenarios to account for potential variations in population growth, water use, and implementation of conservation strategies. The Low Demand Scenario, which is the “most probable” scenario, projects 12.43% less total water demand for the East Honolulu in the year 2040 than the 2010 baseline.

Ultimate Demand Scenario - This scenario incorporates current climate change projections which assume that by 2100, mean sea level will rise by 3.2 ft. This is expected to cause more pronounced nuisance flooding as well as increased high wave run-up and coastal erosion, primarily in low-lying areas makai of the highway, as well as in some areas surrounding Kuapā Pond and within Kuli’ou’ou valley.

East Honolulu Planning District

Executive Summary Figure 1: East Honolulu Planning District



East Honolulu Critical Water Resource Issues

Table 2-15: East Honolulu Critical Water Resource Issues

Climate Change	Sea Level Rise	Nearshore Water Quality	Water Conservation Efforts
Protecting Traditional and Customary Practices	Flooding and Drainage	Access to Mauka and Makai Areas	Wildfires

DISTRICT 4 PROJECTS (CONT.)

(cont.)

Adaptation measures such as seawalls, raising roads, and pumping seawater out of inundated coastal areas may mitigate some of these anticipated impacts in East Honolulu. The City's approach to sea level rise adaptation is yet to be determined and will be subject to many complex factors, including where to direct limited funding for the greatest public good.

Plan Implementation - Implementation of the EHWMP will be a long-term, ongoing process involving many project champions, including public agencies, non-profit entities, community groups, and private landowners and businesses. The Implementation focuses on three approaches to meeting future water demand in East Honolulu:

- 1) Reducing water transfers from Honolulu and Windward water systems through limited source development within East Honolulu.
- 2) Water conservation to manage per-capita demand.
- 3) Preservation of existing sources and water system infrastructure to maintain reliable service.

The implementation and funding of these projects will need to be advanced by many stakeholders in addition to the Board of Water Supply, City and County of Honolulu, and State of Hawai'i. The EHWMP is intended to guide agencies and organizations in implementing the most important initiatives for East Honolulu and its water resources.

CITY PLANS TO CONVERT WAIKĪKĪ APARTMENT TO AFFORDABLE SENIOR HOUSING

The City and County of Honolulu has assumed ownership of a rundown three-story Waikīkī apartment building, with plans to convert it into affordable senior housing. Located at 1615 Ala Wai Boulevard, the building has remained vacant for over two decades, becoming a breeding ground for crime. It is among the City Council's most fundamental kuleana to ensure that our residents can afford to live and thrive on O'ahu. That's why I'm so grateful that we can finally move forward with the condemnation of this property in order to create more affordable housing, while at the same time addressing the longstanding crime in the area that has resulted from years of neglect.

Mahalo to members of our community who have come together, addressed the issues brought about by this property, and made their voices heard to create positive change for their neighborhood.

LIFE SAVING DONATIONS FROM HAWAI'I KAI LIONS CLUB

As part of our commitment to improve beach and public safety, the City has collaborated with the Lions Club to install 20 rescue tubes along 20 miles of O'ahu's southern and Windward shores. The rescue tubes offer safe flotation for both rescuers and distressed swimmers, ensuring their safety until lifeguards arrive.

Our Ocean Safety Lifeguards work hard from dawn to dusk to keep ocean-goers safe. But given the unpredictability of our oceans and the vastness of the beach areas along the southern and Windward coastline, we are incredibly grateful to the Lions Clubs for their donation of rescue tubes, which will greatly enhance our ability to offer additional life-saving devices that help to keep our residents and visitors safe.

In addition, the recent extension of Ocean Safety Lifeguard hours, from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., at the 42 towers around O'ahu, highlights our commitment to safety, with an impressive 6,328 rescues in 2023. Mahalo to Ocean Safety Lifeguards and the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) for their role in identifying locations for these life-saving devices.



DISTRICT 4 PROJECTS (CONT.)

City and County of Honolulu Department of Design and Construction Council District IV												Complete
Note: Dates and status in this report are subject to change											Constr	In Progress
											Constr	Not Started
Project Title	Description	Consultant	Contractor	Constr Contract Amt	% Com	Scope Phase	Plan Design Phase	Bid Phase	Pre Constr Phase	3rd Qtr	Comments	
1	Ala Wai Golf Course Clubhouse Roof & Related Improvements	Work Order #8: 3/16/20; Roof improvements Work Order #12: 6/25/20; Exposed gutters and downspouts; connect downspouts to existing undergrade stormwater collection system	Pacific Architects, Inc.	Certified Construction, Inc.	\$01,143,980	100						Construction phase ongoing.
2	Ala Wai Golf Course Driving Range & Vehicular Bridge Improvements	Improvements to Pedestrian Bridge as required to maintain accessibility from existing parking lot to Ala Wai Golf Course Driving Range; Improvements to existing culvert/vehicular bridge as required to maintain heavy vehicle accessibility to existing clubhouse and associated areas.	Wiss, Janney, Elstner Wiss, Janney, Elstner	Mocon Corporation	\$3,309,000	0			2024 1st Qtr	2024 4th Qtr	Project awarded, Pending NTP.	
3	Kalakaua Ave Bridge (#285) Improvements	Rehabilitate severely spalled concrete arch soffit and cracked railings.	Nagamine Okawa	Kaikor Construction Company, Inc.	\$2,404,540	0				2024 4th Qtr	Construction phase ongoing.	
4	Honolulu Zoo - Maintenance & Storage Room Roof Improvements	Remove and replace existing leaking roof sheeting for the Maintenance Building.	Pacific Architects, Inc.	CC Engineering & Construction, Inc.	\$115,300	95				2024 1st Qtr	Construction phase ongoing.	
5	Honolulu Zoo - Savanna Trellis Roof Rehab Penguin Exhibits	Trellis replacement for Penguin Viewing area. (rebid of Hippo/ Penguin project).	Pacific Architects, Inc.	CC Engineering & Construction, Inc.	\$251,800	34				2024 1st Qtr	Construction phase ongoing.	
6	Honolulu Zoo Water System Upgrade - Phase 1	Honolulu Zoo Water System Upgrade Develop master plan for water system; design repairs and upgrades to the existing potable infrastructure.	The Limtiaco Consulting	RMV Construction, Inc.	\$4,628,997	0				2025 2nd Qtr	Construction phase ongoing.	
7	New Honolulu Zoo Bird Facility	Design and construction for renovated Facility to include Exam and Incubator rooms; improved food prep area; staff workroom; enclosed, condition holding facility for rare Hawaiian species; rebuild of public exhibits (Parrot Row). Renovations to meet current AZA standards & raise occupied areas above existing floodplain.	Pacific Architects, Inc.	T. Iida Contracting, Ltd.	\$3,516,596	45				2024 1st Qtr	Construction phase ongoing.	
8	Waikiki Police Substation - Various (interior, roof, lighting) Improvements	Remove existing and provide new bullet resistant windows at rear wall. Remove existing tarp and provide new venting skylight at apex of roof. Repair and refinish water damage to interior ceilings and walls. Replace any non-working light fixtures. Renovate existing concrete curbs/pit.	Yamasato Higa Architecture	Hawaii Works, Inc.	\$343,227	0				2024 2nd Qtr	Construction phase ongoing.	
9	Waikiki Shell Orchestra Pit Area Renovations	Wall to facilitate add'l premium seating (moveable).	Pacific Architects, Inc.	Molina Engineering, Ltd.	\$143,255	0			2024 3rd Qtr	2024 4th Qtr	Project awarded, Pending NTP.	
10	Waikiki Shell Electrical Upgrades (Switchgear)	Replace existing switchgear with new switchgear. rebuild existing enclosure to utilize existing cable trough.	ECS, Inc.	Ridgeway Construction Inc.	\$310,000	0				2024 4th Qtr	Construction phase ongoing.	
11	Kaimuki Community Park Improvements To Roofs And Interior Of Gymnasium	Roofs and interior Improvements to the Gymnasium building.	Allana, Buick & Bers, Inc.	Certified Construction, Inc.	\$775,616	90				2024 1st Qtr	Construction phase ongoing.	
12	Koko Drive Rockfall Mitigation (048-A)	Mitigation of high-potential rockfall hazards adjacent to a City street for public safety. (Project limits are roughly from 3956 Koko Drive to 3927 Koko Drive (Diamond Head side of road)) (FY19 Rockslide MA WO#7).	AECOM Technical	Prometheus Construction	\$1,144,900	0			2024 3rd Qtr	2024 4th Qtr	Project awarded, Pending NTP.	
13	Rehabilitation of Localized Streets, Phase 14D (Maunalani Circle)		WSP USA, Inc.	Road Builders Corporation	\$2,533,472	93				2024 1st Qtr	12/21/2023: Project in Construction; estimated 93% completed.	
14	Kaahala Community Park Recreation Building Roof, Window and Related Improvements		Ushijima Architects, Inc.	CC Engineering & Construction, Inc.	\$1,038,000	0				2024 2nd Qtr	Construction phase ongoing.	
15	Waiialae Nui Channel Flood Control Improvements	Preparation of channel wall assessment and construction documents for flood control improvements at four locations in Waiialae Nui Channel.	Bills Engineering			0		2024 2nd Qtr			Project in planning/design phase.	
16	Wailua St Bridge Street Lighting Improvements Emergency	2 poles with structural modifications.	Ronald N.S. Ho & Associates	Paul's Electrical Contracting LLC	\$97,700	0				2024 4th Qtr	Construction phase ongoing.	
17	Improvements at Various Hawaii Kai Bridges	Bridge #304, #342 & #352	Nagamine Okawa			0		2023 2nd Qtr			Project went out to bid, Pending award.	
18	Station Emergency Generator	Replace existing emergency generator and related equipment.	ECS, Inc.			0		2024 3rd Qtr			Project in planning/design phase.	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOW TO SUBMIT TESTIMONY

Submitting testimony to the Council is the best way to share your mana'o and impact important decisions. All testimony is collected for use during the public hearing process, therefore all testimony is public information.

Submit Written Testimony Online

- 1) Visit www.honolulu.gov/ccl-testimony-form
- 2) Include your first and last name, phone number, and email address.
- 3) Select the appropriate meeting date and Council/Public Hearing Committee which the measure will be heard in. The meeting calendar and agendas are provided on www.honolulucitycouncil.org.
- 4) Enter the Agenda Item. This is the measure you wish to testify on (a bill or resolution number).
- 5) Select your position on the measure: Support/Oppose/Comment.
- 6) Indicate whether you are testifying as yourself or an organization.
- 7) Type in your written testimony or attach it as .doc or .pdf.
- 8) Review for accuracy, then submit!

Submit Oral Testimony Online

People may submit oral testimony remotely through the Zoom video conferencing platform.

- 1) A Zoom link and meeting number will be provided on the meeting agenda, posted six days before the Council meeting or Committee Hearing.
- 2) To register, visit www.zoom.us, click "Join a Meeting," and enter the meeting ID number. You will be taken to a form where you can complete the registration process.
- 3) You, as a registrant, will receive an email that contains links and information on joining the meeting by either phone or video conference.
- 4) Remote testimony will be taken at the start of the agenda and then closed. Each speaker is allowed:
 - a. A three-minute presentation on Public Hearing, New Business, and Sunshined items; and
 - b. A one-minute presentation on all other items
- 5) If you are testifying through Zoom, you are strongly encouraged to register at least 24 hours before the start of the meeting.



Best Practices

You must testify on behalf of yourself, or on behalf of an organization.

Speak from the heart. Share your personal reasons for why you are testifying and how the agenda item up for discussion impacts you.

Come prepared with talking points that are clear, concise and right to the point of your goal.

Time yourself presenting your oral testimony to ensure that you are speaking within the allotted time given!

Testimony Template

Dear Chair _____, Vice Chair _____, and members of the committee.

My name is _____ and I live in _____, and I am testifying today in support/opposition of (agenda item).

Clearly state your goal and desired outcome of supporting/opposing the measure

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Your name

Zip code

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