

# Helpful Honolulu Resources



### ABANDONED VEHICLES HOTLINE

The City's Customer Service Department (CSD) manages the Abandoned Vehicle Program. If you see suspected abandoned vehicles, you can report it through the hotline below.

[\(808\) 768-2530](tel:(808)768-2530)



### BUILDING PERMITS

Building permits are required to construct, alter or demolish any structure, do electrical work over \$500, or do plumbing work over \$1,000 within a 12-month period.

[www.honolulu.gov/dpp/permitting/building-permits.html](http://www.honolulu.gov/dpp/permitting/building-permits.html)

[\(808\) 768-8000](tel:(808)768-8000)



### BLOOD BANK OF HAWAII'

Become a donor! Just 1 blood donation can save up to 3 lives. Contact the Blood Bank of Hawaii' or go to their website to find the nearest blood donation center near you.

[www.bbh.org/about/location/](http://www.bbh.org/about/location/)

[\(808\) 848-4770](tel:(808)848-4770)



### CRIMESTOPPERS HOTLINE

If you see something, say something! Call Crimestoppers to ensure the safety of our community. The hotline is available 24/7 and callers can remain anonymous.

[\(808\) 955-8300](tel:(808)955-8300)



### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE INSPECTIONS

Travelers must complete and return the agricultural form upon arrival to Hawaii'. For departures, please report all agricultural items in your possession to the agricultural inspectors.

[\(808\) 836-6411](tel:(808)836-6411)



### HOMELESSNESS HOTLINE

The State of Hawaii' is continually working to reduce homelessness and support the homeless. Use the hotline below to request services or to report an encampment.

[\(808\) 586-0193](tel:(808)586-0193)



### HONOLULU POTHOLE HOTLINE

If you see a pothole in any of O'ahu's city streets, contact the hotline below or file a report online.

[honoluluhi.citysourced.com/default.aspx](http://honoluluhi.citysourced.com/default.aspx)

[\(808\) 768-7777](tel:(808)768-7777)



### STREET LIGHT REPAIR

If there are street light issues within the community, call the Traffic Signals Division hotline.

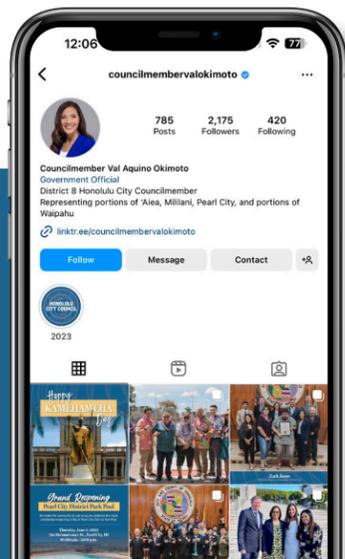
[\(808\) 768-8387](tel:(808)768-8387)



## Let's Stay Connected!

To get weekly updates from me and to see what's going on in our District 8 community, please follow me on social media.

[f](https://www.facebook.com/councilmembervalokimoto) [i](https://www.instagram.com/councilmembervalokimoto) @councilmembervalokimoto



# Councilmember Val Aquino Okimoto

OCTOBER 2023 - ISSUE 15  
NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NEWSLETTER

DISTRICT 8 | PORTIONS OF 'AIEA, MILILANI, PEARL CITY, AND PORTIONS OF WAIPAHU



## Aloha mai kākou,

As we step into the month of October, the air is filled with the promise of cooler days, falling leaves, and the exhilarating anticipation of Halloween. It's a time when 'ohana and keiki all around come together for some spooktacular fun.

Whether you're a fan of Halloween or simply enjoy the autumn vibes, I want to extend warm wishes for a season

filled with joy, celebration, and cherished moments with your loved ones. Halloween brings with it the timeless tradition of trick-or-treating, where our keiki dress up in costumes and venture out to collect sweet treats, a heartwarming sight to see as they're filled with excitement. This year, let's make it even more memorable for them.

In our vibrant community, there's no shortage of Halloween fun, from pumpkin patches to haunted houses, and costume contests to community events. I encourage you to join in the festivities, creating cherished memories.

As we embrace this joyful season, let's prioritize safety and watch out for each other. Whether trick-or-treating, attending events, or enjoying the autumn atmosphere, your well-being matters. Let's make October a month to celebrate together, crafting moments that warm our hearts for years to come. Wishing you all a spooktacular and safe Halloween season!

Mahalo, *Val*

## Contact My Office!

My team and I are focused on serving the community and prioritizing constituent needs and concerns. If you have any questions or would like to report an issue within our district, please contact my office.

[\(808\) 768-5008](tel:(808)768-5008)

[valokimoto@honolulu.gov](mailto:valokimoto@honolulu.gov)





# Honolulu County Updates

## FOSTER COMMUNITY GARDEN OPENS ACCESSIBLE PLOTS



Exciting news! Foster Community Garden introduces an accessible gardening plot, designed for all abilities. With ADA-compliant raised beds and nearby parking, it's a game-changer. Open daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., the garden welcomes all enthusiasts. Nurture your green thumb, whether you're an early riser or prefer afternoons. Explore this inclusive oasis and enjoy the therapeutic benefits of gardening.

For more information, please visit:

[honolulu.gov/parks/hbg/community-gardens](https://honolulu.gov/parks/hbg/community-gardens)

## INTERNSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY



The Honolulu Board of Water Supply's Water Resources Division is seeking 2024 summer interns. This offers students a unique chance to explore diverse civil engineering opportunities, connect with water management experts, engage in fieldwork with Oahu's municipal water system, and apply classroom knowledge to real-world situations through capstone projects.

For more information or to apply for the internship, please visit:

<https://tinyurl.com/BWS-internship>

## SAFEGUARDING WILDLIFE: LIGHTS OFF AT SANDY BEACH



In collaboration with several conservation groups, The City and County of Honolulu has temporarily turned off lights at Sandy Beach Park to protect Honu hatchlings and Hawaiian seabird fledglings. This prevents disorientation due to artificial light. Lights will stay off until mid-November when the hatchlings have fledged. Respect for wildlife and facilities is vital as honu are protected by law.

For more information, please visit:

[dlnr.hawaii.gov/wildlife/birds/](https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wildlife/birds/)

# Halloween Activities For Your 'Ohana

It's that exciting time of year again when we are all gearing up for a spooktacular Halloween! Costumes are being planned, jack-o'-lanterns carved, and candy bags readied for a night of trick-or-treating. Families are getting into the Halloween spirit, making this a cherished occasion for everyone.

In District 8, there's no shortage of Halloween fun for keiki of all ages. Various events are scattered throughout the district, offering a safe and enjoyable way to celebrate this festive occasion.

Here are some exciting Halloween events happening in the area:

- **Mililani Shopping Center:** Sunday, October 29, from 3 to 5 pm
- **Pearlridge Center Candy Crawl:** Tuesday, October 31, from 5 to 8 pm.
- **Town Center of Mililani:** Sunday, October 29, from 11 am to 2 pm
- **Trial of Fears Haunted House at Waikēle Outlets:** dates vary



## A HAUNTING HALLOWEEN CROSSWORD

### ACROSS:

3. Something you would wear on your face
4. Flies on her broom across the sky
6. It makes webs
7. Halloween's Month
9. Orange vegetable that you carve

### DOWN:

1. Drinks blood and doesn't like garlic
2. White as a Sheet, a spirit that haunts
5. \_\_\_\_\_ or Treat
8. Something that you light in the dark
10. A dead body wrapped in bandages



ANSWERS:  
1. Vampire  
2. Ghost  
3. Mask  
4. Witch  
5. Trick  
6. Spider  
7. October  
8. Scary  
9. Pumpkin  
10. Mummy



(808) 768-5008



valokimoto@honolulu.gov



530 S King Street, Honolulu, HI 96813



@councilmembervalokimoto

# District 8 Community Report



## BOXING CHAMP HONORED AT CITY COUNCIL

I had the pleasure of recognizing Boxing Champion Breeanna Locquiao for her wonderful accomplishments in the sport.

She is a 13-time multi-national champion and is currently ranked #1 in the United States in the Elite Female 106 lb. weight class. Aside from a highly ranked female boxer, she is also a police officer dedicated to serving and protecting our communities. Congratulations Breeanna!



## H-3 CONTROL CENTER SITE VISIT

Exploring the H-3 Control Center was an eye-opening experience! We delved deep into the Tetsuo Harano Tunnel's inner workings, witnessing the impressive high-tech surveillance systems that the dedicated staff manage every day. A big mahalo to Tunnels Manager Gerald Pang and his entire team for sharing their expertise, offering us insights into tunnel operations, maintenance, and the fascinating world of tunnel tech.



## 9/11 CEREMONY AT HONOLULU HALE

I participated in the Mayor's Remembrance Walk, a profoundly moving ceremony that honored those we lost on 9/11. I also had the privilege of meeting two incredible individuals, Dan Steinenger and Carl Moynihan, who bravely shared their experiences as first responders during the attacks. Their speeches reminded me of the resilience of the human spirit. Let us never forget, and may the stories of those we lost inspire us to cherish the precious gift of life.



## 'AIEA-PEARL CITY TOWNHALL ON HOMELESSNESS

The 'Aiea-Pearl City Town Hall meeting saw a great turnout as the community discussed the homelessness issue. Key takeaways included the need for affordable housing and solutions for homeless and low-income individuals. Gratitude was expressed to State of Hawaii Homelessness Coordinator James Koshiba and Achieve Zero Executive Director Nicky Winter for providing insightful statistics and fostering ongoing dialogue. Addressing homelessness is a challenging journey, but local legislators are committed to finding meaningful solutions. For further information, visit homelessness.hawaii.gov or achievezero.org.



## MILILANI HIGH SCHOOL HOMECOMING PARADE

Mililani High School's Homecoming Parade was an absolute blast! Surrounded by an incredible amount of school spirit, you could feel the Mililani pride! From the various schools in our district to our amazing homecoming court, talented football team, and the vibrant student organizations, it was a day filled with fun and excitement. And let's not forget the awesome community members who joined in on the fun! Shoutout to Councilmember Weyer, aka Superman, for being a great parade partner! Go Mililani Trojans!



## PCSCMC HONORED AT KAPOLEI HALE

The Honolulu City Council honored several members of our community including the Pearl City Shopping Center Merchants Association. Mahalo to Barry Villamil, Irwin Santos, Duane Kurisu, and the dedicated PCSCMC team for their unwavering commitment to enhancing our community's shopping experience and organizing a variety of events that strengthen our community bonds.



# FEMA Maui Assistance Dealine Extended

Homeowners and renters who were affected by the Aug. 8 wildfires on Maui now have **until Thursday, Nov. 9 to apply for federal disaster assistance from FEMA** and submit an application for a disaster loan from the US Small Business Administration.

“As we continue to mourn the destruction and tragic loss of life on Maui, it is crucial that the Maui community has the federal assistance and relief it needs,” said the Hawai‘i Congressional delegation in a joint statement. “The loan deadline extension will provide businesses, nonprofits, homeowners, and renters who have been impacted by this tragedy with additional time to navigate the loan process and submit their applications without the added pressure of a tight timeline. We appreciate the SBA for heeding our call and we will continue working to ensure that Maui has the federal funding and support needed to recover and rebuild.”

Survivors are encouraged to file insurance claims for damage to their homes, personal property and vehicles before they apply for FEMA assistance, which is available to eligible individuals and households.

## Types of available disaster loans:

- **Home Disaster Loans** – Loans to homeowners or renters to repair or replace disaster-damaged real estate and personal property, including automobiles.
- **Business Physical Disaster Loans** – Loans to businesses to repair or replace disaster-damaged property owned by the business, including real estate, inventories, supplies, machinery and equipment. Businesses of any size are eligible. Private, non-profit organizations such as charities, churches, private universities, etc., are also eligible.
- **Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL)** – Working capital loans to help small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and most private, non-profit organizations of all sizes meet their ordinary and necessary financial obligations that cannot be met as a direct result of the disaster. These loans are intended to assist through the disaster recovery period.

[www.sba.gov/hawaii-wildfires](http://www.sba.gov/hawaii-wildfires)

# Mahi ‘Ai Agricultural Loan Program

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs is deeply committed to empowering Native Hawaiians and their ‘ohana by facilitating access to vital resources that enable them to pursue their financial aspirations. With a focus on nurturing and facilitating growth, our lending program is designed to enhance the economic well-being of Native Hawaiians, fostering financial stability and self-reliance within the community.

These programs have empowered Native Hawaiians to grow businesses, improve homes, advance education, and more. The OHA Loan program’s distinctive focus on Native Hawaiians’ unique needs fosters community well-being and a brighter financial future.

[loans.oha.org](http://loans.oha.org)

**HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

**BUDGET (BUD)**  
Radiant Cordero, Chair  
Matt Weyer, Vice Chair

**EXECUTIVE MATTERS & LEGAL AFFAIRS (EMLA)**  
Tyler Dos Santos-Tam, Chair  
Radiant Cordero, Vice Chair

**TRANSPORTATION (TRANS)**  
Tyler Dos Santos-Tam, Chair  
Radiant Cordero, Vice Chair

**ZONING (ZON)**  
Calvin Say, Chair  
Tyler Dos Santos-Tam, Vice Chair

**PARKS, ENTERPRISE SERVICES & CULTURE AND THE ARTS (PESCA)**  
Augie Tulba, Chair  
Val Okimoto, Vice Chair

**HOUSING, SUSTAINABILITY, AND HEALTH (HSH)**  
Matt Weyer, Chair  
Esther Kia’aina, Vice Chair

**PLANNING AND ECONOMY (P&E)**  
Esther Kia’aina, Chair  
Radiant Cordero, Vice Chair

**PUBLIC SAFETY (PS)**  
Val Okimoto, Chair  
Augie Tulba, Vice Chair

**PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE & TECHNOLOGY (PIT)**  
Andria Tupola, Chair  
Calvin Say, Vice Chair

# Legislative Review

For this month legislative update, we have a few bills that were passed by the council and await the Mayors signature. The Honolulu City Council passed **Bill 46 (2023)** related to flavored tobacco at the Regular Full Council Meeting with a vote of 6-3.

**Bill 46 (2023)** aims to define and prohibit the sale of flavored tobacco products within the City and County of Honolulu. The escalating use of electronic smoking devices, commonly known as “vapes,” has led to a significant rise in youth nicotine addiction. These devices have been linked to severe lung disease, potential harm to brain development, and acute nicotine poisoning. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, across a range of tobacco products, flavorings are one of the main reasons that youth initiate tobacco use.

**Bill 20 (2023)** sets up a framework for establishing new restricted parking zones, which essentially limits street parking to residents only. Daily guest passes can be retrieved from city offices, and specific hours or time limits can be determined on a case-by-case basis. RPZ residents who want to park along the street will have to pay for annual permits, with each household being limited to four. The mayor has until Oct. 18 to take action on the bills before it automatically goes into effect.

Finally, the council introduced 3 measures as part of the Councils ongoing emergency preparedness legislative package.

1. **Resolution 23-239:** Initiating Amendments To The Revised Charter Of The City And County Of Honolulu 1973 (Amended 2017 Edition), As Amended, Relating To The Qualifications Of The Director Of Emergency Management, co-introduced with Council Chair Tommy Waters
2. **Resolution 23-240:** Requesting The City Administration To Present To The City Council Budget Recommendations That Address Long-Term Emergency Preparedness No Later Than 150 Days Prior To The End Of Each Fiscal Year, co-introduced with Budget Chair Radiant Cordero
3. **Resolution 23-241:** Urging The City Administration To Establish A Working Group To Provide Recommendations On Long-Term Emergency Preparedness For Residential Housing, co-introduced with Public Safety Chair Val Aquino Okimoto

For those seeking comprehensive information on these bills/resos or any other legislative matters, please visit the Honolulu City Council website, [honolulucitycouncil.org](http://honolulucitycouncil.org).

