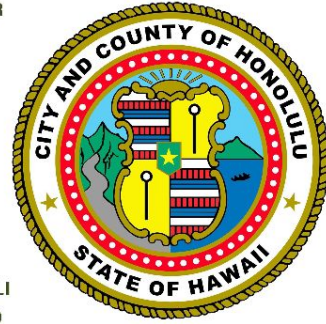




ESTHER CITY COUNCILMEMBER
DISTRICT 3

KIA 'ĀINA



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

November 30, 2023

'Tis the Season



Councilmember Kia'aina with Aunty Blanche McMillan of Hui Mahi'ai 'Āina at the 2022 Waimānalo Christmas Parade.

The Holiday Season is upon us and the City is working hard to perpetuate the spirit of the holidays and aloha at Honolulu Hale and Kapolei Hale. Please join us for:

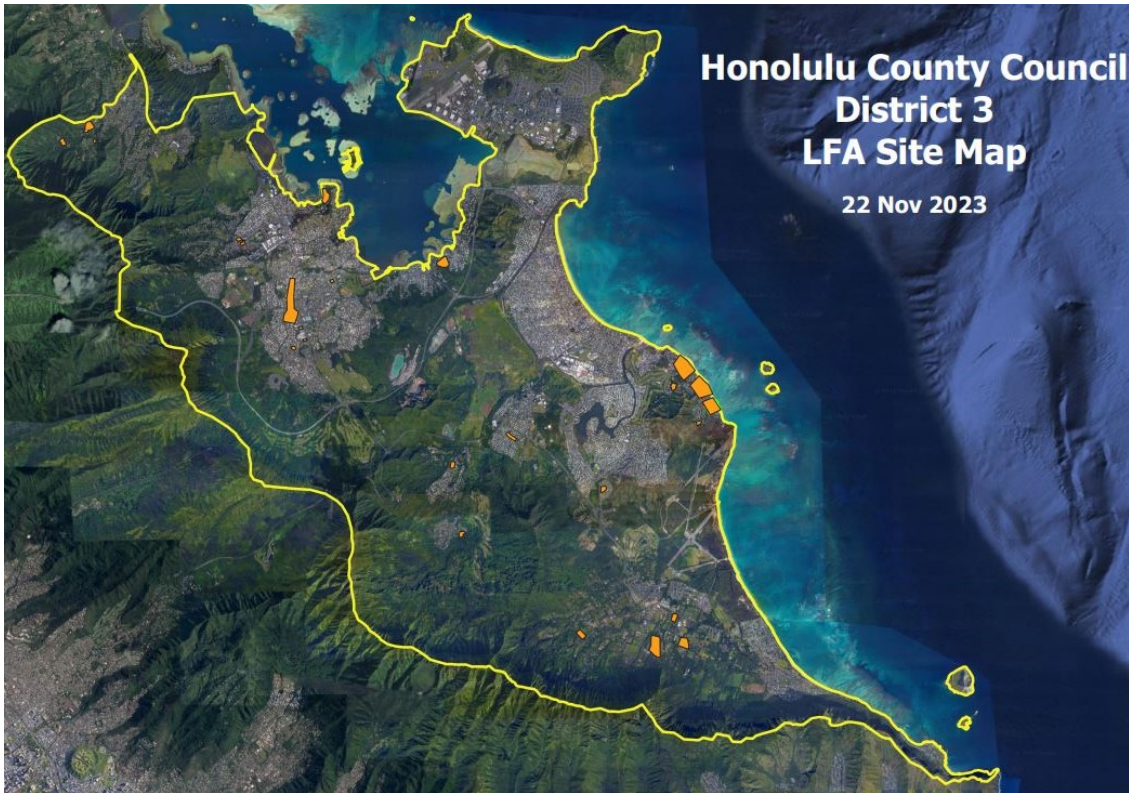
- [Opening Night of Honolulu City Lights](#): Block Party with delicious food for purchase (4pm), Mayor's Tree Lighting Ceremony (6pm), & Light Parade (6:30pm) this Saturday, Dec. 2nd
 - Honolulu Hale City Department Tree Exhibition and Wreath Exhibit from 7pm - 10pm on Dec. 2nd, then from 8:00am - 10:00pm daily from December 3rd - 29th
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- [Opening Night of Kapolei City Lights](#): “A Westside Wonderland”: Block Party (5pm), Holiday Parade (6pm), Mayor’s Tree Lighting Ceremony (6pm) next Saturday, December 9th
- Kapolei Hale Decorations - Monday to Thursday 7:30am to 8pm, Friday - Sunday & Holidays from 10am to 10pm, starting December 10th

You can also join us at the upcoming Windward side parades:

- The 59th Annual Kāne’ohe Christmas Parade - Saturday, Dec. 2nd, at 9am Route: Windward Mall/Kāne’ohe Bay Shopping Center to Castle High School - find more details [here](#)
- The Waimānalo Christmas Parade 2023 - Saturday, December 9th at 9am to 11:30am, Theme: Sharing memories of Andrew Jamila Jr., Route: Waimānalo District Park to Waimānalo Beach Park - find more details [here](#). “An Eastside Holiday Fun Fair” will take place right after the Waimanalo Parade at Waimanalo School Cafeteria and grounds from 1 pm to 4 pm

**Windward Leaders and Community Members
Continue
to Combat Invasive Species**



Map of known little fire ant sites, identified in orange, within District 3, provided by the Hawai'i Ant Lab as of Nov. 22, 2023.

Invasive species continue to be a hot topic for many Windward residents. A recent report from [KHON2 news](#) revealed that the majority of the identified infestations of little fire ants on O'ahu are located on the Windward Side, and coconut rhinoceros beetles and coqui frogs are still continuing concerns in our district.

Windward leaders, including myself, have been joining concerned community members and invasive species experts to strategize and inform the broader community about the detrimental impacts of invasive species to our ecology and quality of life. After an initial Waimānalo town hall meeting about invasive species in August, I joined Kāne'ohe state leaders at a Kāne'ohe meeting in September, followed by a Little Fire Ant Workshops in Lanikai and Maunawili in October and November, respectfully. Please join us for another invasive species meeting at Kailua District Park on December 4, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

One of the challenges facing organizations like the Hawai'i Ant Lab and O'ahu Invasive Species Committee, as well as state officials, is the lack of state funding and stiffer regulatory tools to support their efforts. As the City and County of Honolulu begins to consider its budget for fiscal year 2025, I am interested in exploring what role the City & County of Honolulu can play in supporting on the ground resources that work to prevent the spread of these invasive species in

our communities.

To learn more about how to combat [invasive species](#), please contact:

Statewide Pest Hotline, 643-PEST (7378), Report new pest sightings at <https://www.643pest.org>

Hawai'i Invasive Species Council - <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/hisc>, Email Chelsea Arnott at Chelsea.I.Arnott.researcher@hawaii.gov

Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS), (808) 722-0995, Email Christy Martin at christym@hawaii.edu

Hawai'i Ant Lab - O'ahu Office, (808) 824-1366, Email info@littlefireants.com, <https://stoptheant.org>

Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Response, (808) 679-5244, Email info@crbhawaii.org, Report Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle discoveries at <https://www.crbhawaii.org/report>

O'ahu Invasive Species Committee (OISC), (808) 286-4616, Email oisc@hawaii.edu

Supporting our 'Ohana on Maui



Members of Hui Kāko'o Maui at the U.S. Economic Development Administration in Washington, D.C. The hui includes the Maui and Honolulu County Council, the Maui Mayor's office, the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement, Maui United Way, Maui Economic Development Board, Hawai'i Community Foundation, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc., 'Āina Aloha Economic Futures, and the Chamber of Commerce Hawai'i.

On September 6, 2023 the Honolulu City Council passed [Resolution 23-194](#), to express that the Council stands in solidarity with the people of Maui and commits to aiding in Maui's recovery. To me, it is so important that all of Hawai'i help the people of Maui.

In an effort to support our Maui 'ohana, I joined Honolulu City Council Chair Tommy Waters and state-wide and Maui business, political, and non-profit leaders by sending a letter to the Hawai'i Congressional delegation supporting their efforts to seek funding to address long-term economic recovery needs. To underscore the importance of these efforts, I traveled with Hui Kāko'o Maui members to Washington D.C. in October to meet with our Hawai'i Congressional delegation (U.S. Senator Brian Schatz, U.S. Senator Mazie Hirono, U.S. Rep. Ed Case, and U.S. Rep. Jill Tokuda), officials from the White House, the Small Business Administration, the Economic Development Administration, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, FEMA, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. To view the letter and related *Civil Beat* coverage, please click [here](#).

Being Prepared for Wildfire Risks



Smoke billowing from West O'ahu brush fire on August 21, 2023. Credit: Hawaii News Now

The devastating wildfires on Maui have really been a wakeup call for all of us - as a state, as counties, as communities, and as individual families.

I am pleased to share that Mayor Blangiardi and his Administration have been evaluating the City's fire preparedness, particularly given the increased risks that extreme weather events are presenting. The City has also stood up a Wildfire Preparedness Working Group, being co-chaired by the Department of Emergency Management Director and Honolulu Fire Chief and made up of more than 20 City departments, including the Board of Water Supply and the City's Office of Climate change, and the first responders. The group will also be coordinating with federal and state partners, such as the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the U.S. Department of Defense.

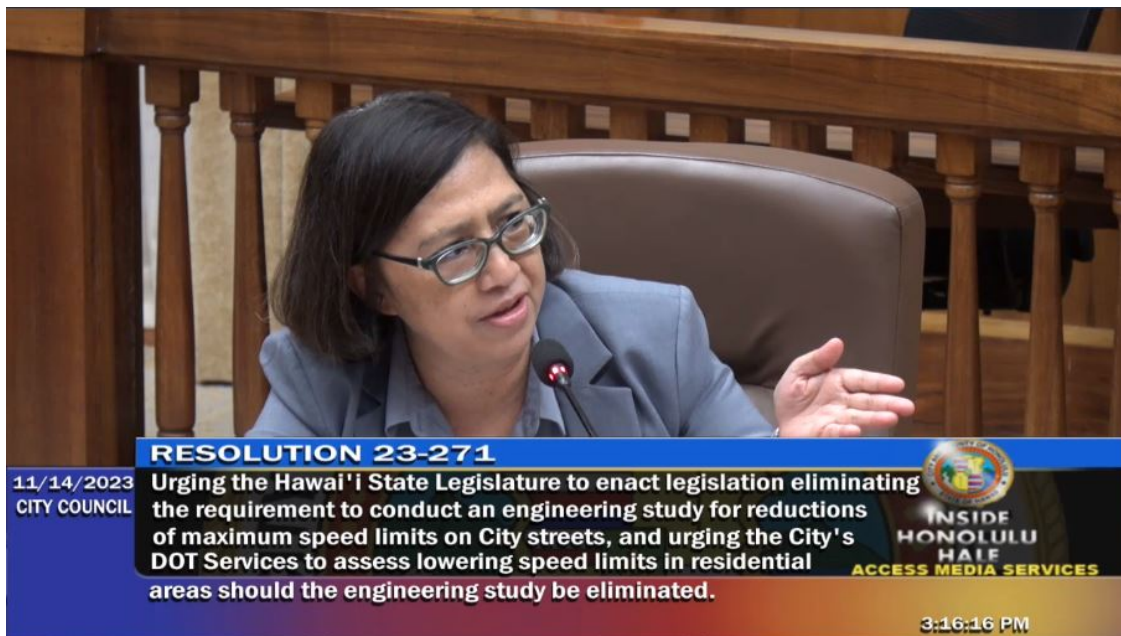
According to the Honolulu Fire Department, over 98% of wildfires are human caused, and recommends the following preparedness tips:

- Create at least a 30-foot safety zone around the house by removing brush and other vegetation.
 - Store flammable materials safely away from the exterior of your home.
 - If it can catch fire, do not let it touch your house.
-

- Report suspicious activity you may have seen before, during, or after a fire.
- Keep fire lanes and access points unobstructed to ensure fire apparatuses can reach your home.
- Make and practice a family evacuation plan.
- Wildland fire can spread to tree tops.
- Prune trees so the lowest branches are six to ten feet from the ground.

Find more about Honolulu Wildfire Fire Preparedness [here](#).

Legislative Update



Several updates on measures that have been recently approved by the Honolulu City Council or are moving through the legislative process that I care about include decreasing speed limits, updating the Land Use Ordinance, construction self-certification, flavored tobacco, financing for clean energy home improvements, and Native Hawaiian reconciliation efforts:

- [Resolution 23-271](#) – **Decreasing the Speed Limit**: urges the State Legislature to eliminate the requirement to conduct an engineering study for reductions of maximum speed limits on City streets and urges the City Department of Transportation Services to assess whether maximum speed limits throughout the City's residential areas should be lowered from 25 miles per hour to 15 miles per hour. I introduced this measure in
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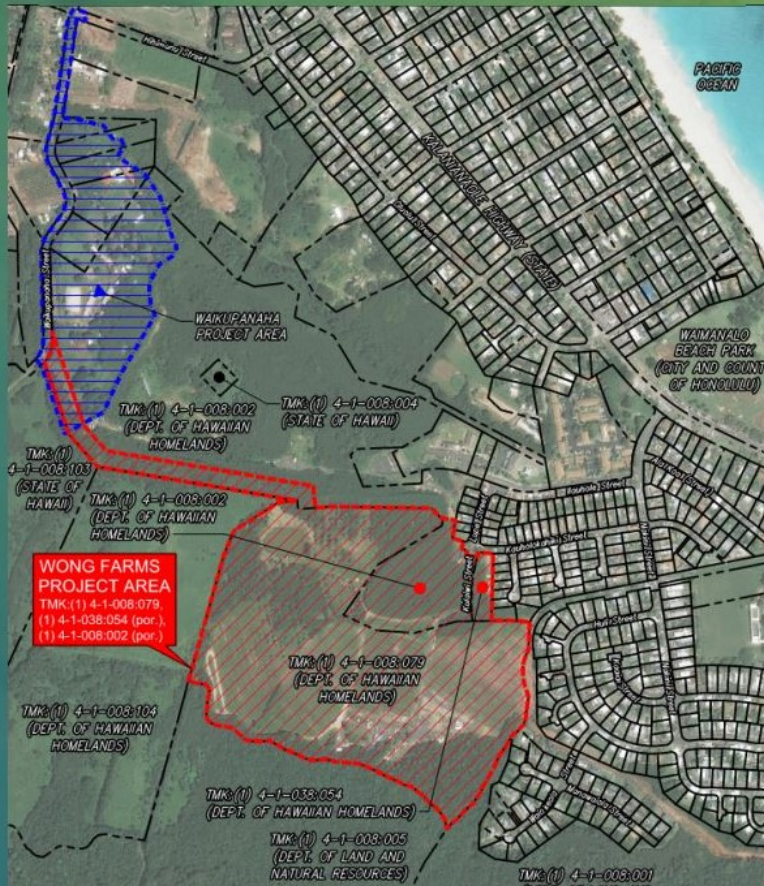
response by many residents who are concerned about the continued speeding in residential neighborhoods and calls for speed mitigation measures. The resolution was approved at the November 14, 2023 Committee on Transportation, and is anticipated to be adopted at the City Council meeting on December 6, 2023.

- **Bill 10 (2022) / [Bill 64 \(2023\)](#) - **Updating the Land Use Ordinance:** After taking an indefinite pause in May 2023 at the request of the Department of Planning & Permitting, I have introduced Bill 64 (2023), a reintroduction of Bill 10 (2022), which updates Article 5 of the City's Land Use Ordinance. As required by the two year filing deadline that applies to all City Council bills, Bill 64 (2023) consists of the last committee draft of Bill 10 (2022) that was adopted by the Council last year. However, I have also introduced a proposed [floor draft](#) of Bill 64 (2023), which reflects the cumulative changes made to Bill 10 (2022) up to the last time the bill was considered by the Planning and the Economy (P&E) committee, which I chair, at its May 25, 2023 meeting. This allows the City Council to consider the measure beyond February 2024, and continue its commitment to community engagement and input on updates to the Land Use Ordinance. I anticipate the P&E committee holding an informational briefing on Bill 64 on January 11, 2024, and its first substantive meeting, which will focus on the Residential Use category on February 8, 2024.**
 - **[Bill 6, CD2, FD1](#) - **Self-certification:**** establishes a temporarily program that allows building permit applicants to use a self-certified professional for expedited review and issuance of building permits for the following types of projects: [Revised Ordinances of Honolulu Chapter 32 \(Bill 7\)](#) affordable rental housing projects, certain commercial building tenant improvements, and Department of Hawaiian Homeland residential projects. Due to concerns regarding the self-certification process for Bill 7 projects, I secured several amendments to Bill 6 including requiring the self-certification for Bill 7 projects to have prior experience obtaining building permits and certificates of occupancy with such projects. The full City Council approved the measure for final passage, and I voted with reservations at the November 1, 2023 meeting. The Mayor signed the measure into law on November 20, 2023.
 - **[Bill 46, CD2, FD1](#) - **Prohibiting Tobacco Flavored Products:**** prohibits retailers from selling or offering most flavored tobacco products for sale; marketing and advertising flavored tobacco products; or mislabeling, selling, or marketing e-liquid products that contain nicotine as "nicotine free." As we all know, such products entice youth to consume tobacco products. The measure was approved by the full Council at the October 4, 2023 City Council meeting. While Mayor Blangiardi signed the measure into law on October 20, 2023, the law would only go into effect if the State legislature repeals or suspends the current State preemption of county ordinances on the sale of tobacco products. I believe it is important that the City and County of Honolulu be on record on this important issue.
-

- [Bill 56](#) - **Clean Energy Improvements**: establishes a financing program for commercial property assessed clean energy (C-PACE) at the City and County of Honolulu. If passed, this financing program can be an important option for property owners to use for clean energy improvements as well as upgrading infrastructure necessary to handling sewage, including aging cesspools, energy and water efficiency, and clean energy generation and resilience. The measure, referred to the Committee on Housing, Sustainability, and Health, was approved by the committee on November 28, 2023, and is anticipated to be heard for final passage at the full City Council meeting on December 6, 2023.
- [Resolution 23-255, FD1](#) - **Commemorating the “Apology Resolution”**: At the request of Native Hawaiians, I introduced Resolution 23-255, which commemorates the 30th anniversary of the enactment into law of [Public Law 103-150](#), also known as the “Apology Resolution,” which offered a U.S. apology to Native Hawaiians for the 1893 overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawai‘i and committed to support reconciliation efforts between the United States and the Native Hawaiian people. As a young staffer for U.S. Senator Daniel Akaka in 1993, it was an honor to have helped in the development and passage of the Apology Resolution. Resolution 23-255, FD1 was adopted by the full Council at the November 1, 2023 City Council meeting.

New Department of Hawaiian Home Land Development Proposed for Waimānalo

Project Location



The State of Hawai'i Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is proposing plans for additional Hawaiian homesteads in Waimānalo. The project, which will be located where Waimānalo Country Farms operates, will either be developed for subsistence agriculture lots, consisting of 56 parcels with an average size of 0.63 acres, or a residential division, comprising 249 parcels with an average lot size of 5,600 sq. ft. Development plans are ongoing and will be based on feedback from Hawaiian Home Land beneficiaries. The project will also include new asphalt concrete roadways and new utilities. The project has already concluded its environmental, cultural, archaeological, biological, and topographic surveys, and a draft environmental assessment is anticipated to be completed by the end of the year. To view the presentation, please click [here](#).

**Become a Member of Your Local Community
Emergency Response Team (CERT)**



OAHU CERT

HONOLULU DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Empower yourself and your community with the vital skills needed to navigate and respond to disasters through the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training program. This initiative, sponsored by the City's Department of Emergency Management, equips individuals and their families with essential disaster management skills, ensuring preparedness during an emergency.

Open to anyone interested in disaster preparedness, becoming a CERT member not only provides crucial life-safety support techniques, but also fosters a culture of reliance and preparedness throughout our community. For additional information, please visit <https://www.honolulu.gov/dem/involved/get-trained.html>, visit your community's CERT website, or contact the following individuals.

Kailua

Marc Lawton, KailuaCERT@gmail.com

<https://www.honolulu.gov/site-dem-sitearticles/35749-kailua.html>

Kāneʻohe/Kahaluu

Marie Samudio, (808) 239-2212, mariesamudio46@gmail.com

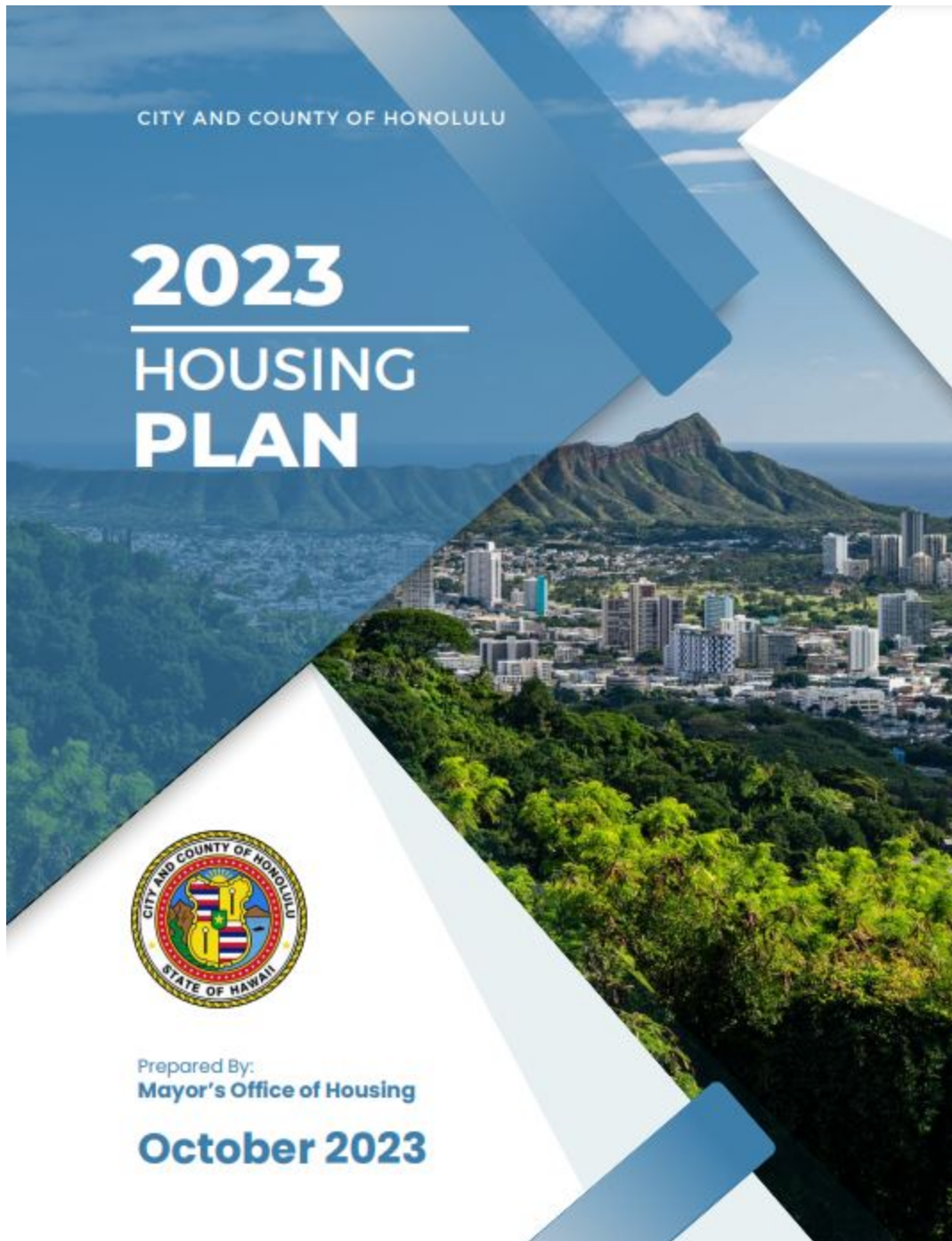
<https://www.honolulu.gov/site-dem-sitearticles/35754-kaneohe.html>

Waimānalo

Michael Kahumoku, (808) 304-8573, getreadywaimanalo@gmail.com

<https://www.honolulu.gov/site-dem-sitearticles/35789-waimanalo.html>

Increasing Honolulu's Housing Supply



In collaboration with the City Council, which passed [Resolution 22-03](#) on January 26, 2022, the City administration recently released the [City & County of Honolulu 2023 Housing Plan](#), which was presented to the Housing, Sustainability, and Health committee, of which I am the Vice-Chair, on November 28, 2023.

The draft plan was put together by the City's Office of Housing, which drives the City's policy and strategy to increase and preserve affordable housing across O'ahu, and strives to drive unprecedented investment in the acquisition, creation, and preservation of affordable housing.

The plan identifies key strategies to break down barriers to development and incentivizing production of housing:

- Investment in affordable housing
- Improvement of housing development processes
- Addressing regulatory barriers
- Investment in Transit-Oriented Development and infrastructure
- Improvement of real estate and asset management

In addition to the acquisitions the City already made at Waikīkī Vista and Kīhāpai Place, using funding I advocated for in the FY 2023 & FY2024 CIP budgets, as well as the funding awards made to private affordable housing developers (in Kailua, 'Aiea, Honolulu, and Waialua), the Council worked with the Administration to allocate significant sums of funding for future construction of affordable housing for local families and address homelessness in the FY24 budget. You can see FY24 budget highlights [here](#). I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues on implementation of these strategies into policies that will result in more truly affordable housing.

**New Office of Council Services Director
Recommended for City Council**



The Honolulu Council’s Selection Advisory Committee, of which I served on with Chair Tommy Waters and Council member Calvin Say, recommended Mr. Wintehn Park as the new director of the Office of Council Services (OCS). Pursuant to the City Charter the Council shall appoint a Director for a term of six years.

The Office of Council Services serves all Councilmembers and primarily assists Council members and their staff with legislative research, drafting measures, legal advice, and maintaining compliance with procedural requirements related to the legislative process. The Office also serves as the City’s Revisor of Ordinances, maintaining the official version of all laws enacted by the City Council.

The Council’s Committee on Executive Management supported the recommendation to approve [Resolution 23-278](#), which would approve the appointment of Mr. Park, at its meeting on November 14, 2023. At that time Mr. Park shared his history of experience working in both legal and legislative fields, most recently serving as the Senate Majority Attorney in the Hawai’i State Legislature. To learn more about Mr. Park, who hails from Kailua, please find his resume [here](#). The Honolulu City Council is anticipated to take action on his appointment at the December 6, 2023 full Council meeting.

Community Outreach and Events



I was honored to attend the grand opening celebration of Adventist Health Castle's Primary Care Clinic on October 30th, located at 30 Aulike Street, Suite 300, in Kailua.

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. 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](#) or on [google play](#), 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).



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

530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, HI 96813
(808) 768-5003
E-mail: ekiaaina@honolulu.gov

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